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TO OUR READERS:

In compliance with the Israeli military authorities, and under the guise of the m
Al-Fajr is required to submit all material prepared for publication in this weekly, and also in the Arabic [illegible]
Edition, to the Israeli censorship authorities, who use this blanket authority excessively. The material appearing on pages [illegible]
with letters has all been censored and expunged by the Israeli authorities. We found it necessary and relevant to publish it on these pages in the foreign edition.

In Beqa'a

Syrian Forces Repell Israeli Advances

Syrian forces reportedly aborted two Israeli attempts to establish new positions in the buffer zone separating frontlines in the Beqa'a.

The first incident occurred on April 26, when an Israeli bulldozer protected by an armoured personnel carrier, drove into the buffer zone area, east of the village of Amiq, and began digging trenches. Syrian media reported that their forces opened fire on the vehicles and forced them to retreat.

On April 27, shortly before noon, Syrian forces repelled a second attempt by opening tank artillery fire on two APC's and two bulldozers which crossed the cease-fire lines.

An Israeli military spokesman down-played the incidents, and said that Israeli positions were fired upon from the Syrian side. The spokesman claimed that there were no casualties and that Israeli troops did not return the fire. He denied work was taking place in no-man's land. Later on, Israeli war planes made reconnaissance flights over the Beqa'a valley, breaking the sound barrier.

Foreign reporters, who have recently visited the front lines, following the increased state of military tension in the Beqa'a, said that they have not noticed any Syrian troop deployment on the front lines. Foreign correspondents, however, said that Syrian positions have been fortified. According to US and NATO intelligence reports, which were published in *The New York Times*, Israeli troops have set up central bases in the Kufr Mashki and Deir al-Qamar areas and concentrated tank carriers in Khirbet Ruba area. The road to the frontlines from Khirbet Ruba has also been widened to facilitate the speedy passage of tanks.

The NATO report says that the main portion of Israeli forces in Lebanon — estimated at 30,000 soldiers — is concentrated in this area.

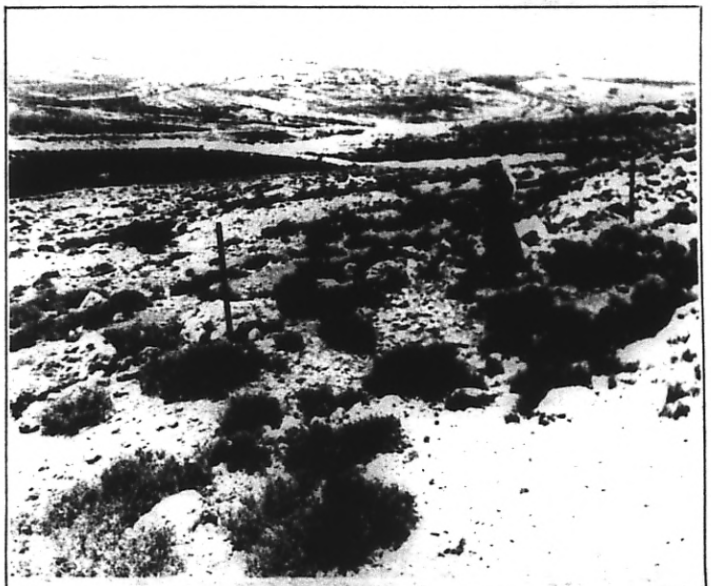
A central Israeli army logistics base, which includes landing areas for helicopters and radar and communications installations, has been set up near Marjayoun. At Arkouf in the Beqa'a valley, the Israeli army has set up a line of fortified positions, some of them protected by high stone walls.

These positions are defended by anti-tank and anti-aircraft missiles and are operated by experienced reservists. Another central base has been built southwest of Sidon, near the Zahrani oil terminal.

In a report filed April 25 by AP from Tel Aviv, the agency quotes UN observers on the Golan Heights as saying they have seen "no unusual troop movements" on the Israel-Syria border. The report points out that most of the tension between the two countries has been focused on their cease-fire line in Lebanon.

Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir, in a speech at the Israeli commercial and industrial club in Tel Aviv, accused Syria of generating tension. He said that tension in Lebanon's Beqa'a valley is "entirely artificial." Meanwhile, minister without portfolio Ariel Sharon demanded at Sunday's cabinet meeting that Israeli troops should take steps to counter the attacks against them.

Syrian media organs, in their reporting on the state of tension in Lebanon, linked the prevailing situation with the visit of US Secretary of State George Shultz, to the area. The official Syrian daily *Tishrin* said, April 27, that the Israeli plan is to draw the Syrian forces into a battle, in order to postpone the departure of its forces from Lebanon.



Beitillu villager surveys land confiscated by Israeli military authorities. Four hundred dunums were declared "state land." /SF

South Lebanon

Israel Radio said that four Israeli soldiers were hospitalised, April 28, for injuries received in a car bomb explosion in Sidon.

During the past week, there have been a number of armed attacks against Israeli targets in South Lebanon. Israeli newspapers said that a new technique is being employed in the attacks: in one incident, April 24, a remote-controlled bomb planted on the Lebanese coast road north of Sidon exploded as an Israeli military vehicle passed by.

The same car was then fired upon from an ambush nearby.

Plan to Dismantle Refugee Camps Disclosed

Israeli government sources this week disclosed the existence of a plan for emptying and dismantling the West Bank refugee camps, and for resettling Palestinian refugees elsewhere. However, Mordechai Ben Porat, Israeli minister without portfolio, denied April 27, that the plan for resettling the Palestinians outside camps is underway. He said a plan is being prepared and that a special study committee will be set up before it is implemented. He expected the process to take a few months.

A day earlier, a source in the minister's office disclosed that the plan is progressing. As it stands at present it will "grant" refugees funds to build houses on plots chosen by the occupation authorities. An assistant to Ben Porat revealed that the Israelis have contacted international Zionist and other organisations and the governments of Jordan and Lebanon to get financial asistance for the project.

The ministerial committee, headed by Ben Porat, was established a few months ago, with a brief to find possible means to solve the refugee problem in the West Bank. Ben Porat claimed that he visited several camps in the West Bank and talked to the people who supported his ideas about eviction from the camps. "They are ready to be transferred from the camps and to live in stable houses instead of their present houses," the minister was quoted in the government Arabic daily *Al Anba'* as saying. Roy Skinner, the director of UNRWA in the West Bank, refused to comment on the latest news. Skinner said that he is awaiting official notification from the Israeli authorities. Official sources at UNRWA in Jerusalem refused to comment until they get answers from UNRWA headquarters in Vienna. According to official UNRWA statistics, the number of refugees in the West Bank is 275,000. 75,000 of them live in 19 camps.

Sources at Dheisheh camp reported that Israeli minister Ben Porat visited their camp several months ago but only talked to "some ostracised collaborators."

The editorial of *Al Fajr* Arabic newspaper, April 27, called the move a step towards liquidating the Palestinian cause.

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Israeli forces set up roadblock on the cease-fire line with Syria. Tension between the two forces rose this week as Syrian forces aborted two Israeli attempts to advance into the Beqa'a.

PLO, RAKAH OFFICIALS MEET

A high level meeting between delegations of the PLO, headed by Yasir Arafat, chairman of the executive committee, and of the Israeli Communist Party (Rakah) headed by General Secretary Meir Wilner, ended in Prague April 18 with a joint statement supporting the resolutions of the Fez summit and the Palestine National Council and calling for a strengthening of relations.

The PLO delegation, consisting of Arafat, Dr Sadqi Dajani member of the executive committee, Hani al-Hassan, member of the Fatah central committee, and PLO spokesman Ahmad Abdel Rahman, met with the Rakah delegation of Wilner, Zahi Karkabi, secretary of the central committee of Rakah, and Ibrahim Malek, central committee member.

British, PLO Foreign Affairs Officials Meet

Farouq Qaddumi, head of the PLO political department, and his British counterpart Douglas Hurd, British minister for foreign affairs, met April 22 in Tunis for 45 minutes' discussion on current Middle East affairs. The meeting drew sharp criticism from Israel and British Zionist leaders.

Hurd reportedly used the opportunity to urge the Palestinians, through Qaddumi, "not to throw away the understanding and sympathy the Palestinians have obtained if they refuse to come forward."

In an interview with the British government information office, Hurd said that Qaddumi replied that it was Israel which was the obstacle for peace. He observed that US policy in the Middle East is one sided, in favour of Israel.

The British official insisted that the meeting had not been arranged in advance. He said that it did not indicate a change in Britian's foreign policy in the region. "We have had these contacts before, and I have seen Mr Qaddumi before," Hurd said.

On his return to England, Hurd told reporters that the meeting was held at Qaddumi's request while Hurd was on an official visit to Tunis.

Several days prior to the meeting, Britain's foreign secretary, Francis Pym, told foreign journalists in London that Britain was convinced that the principle of "exchanging territory for peace" as it was spelled out in UN resolution 242, must be adhered to. He said that the form of negotiations and the details of talks were less important. Pym told his audience that the Fez peace plan and the Reagan initiative could provide the necessary groundwork for a "just settlement."

Greville Janner, a British Zionist leader and member of Parliament termed the meeting a "reversal of government policy."

In a late reaction to the Hurd-Qaddumi meeting, and to recent statements by foreign secretary Francis Pym concerning the deadlocked Lebanese-Israeli talks, British ambassador in Israel, Patrick Moberly, was summoned to the Israeli foreign ministry, and informed of "displeasure over the British moves."

On the local West Bank level, the British consul in East Jerusalem, Vic Henderson, visited three municipalities for a report on the conditions of the local residents. The British consul has reportedly asked the three mayors about their perceptions of the exisiting plans for solving the Middle East conflict. He also inquired about the mayors' positions with regard to Palestinian-Jordanian rapprochement.

Henderson denied that his meetings with West Bank figures were linked to any specific political activity by British officials. "It is part of my job to get to know community leaders," Henderson told *Al Fajr*.

Old City Settlers Bar Family from Home

Mahmoud Abu Sneineh, 50, has admitted defeat and left the house he and his 15-member family have lived in since 1968 in Aqbat Khaldieh, Jerusalem. His neighbours, settlers in a religious school who occupied several neighbouring apartments in the Old City in 1979, have prevented him from getting into his home for over three weeks since they savagely beat up Fatmeh Abu Mayaleh, a 60-year-old woman, April 2.

Abu Sneineh told *Al Fajr*, "When I or any member of my family goes to our home, the settlers throw bottles and stones at us."

When he last ran the gauntlet to his house, April 18, around 9:00 pm, settlers started to demolish his kitchen. Trapped, Abu Sneineh shouted for help from his neighbours who called for the police. The settlers vandalised his kitchen and broke the door, but they did not harm him and they left before the arrival of the police. Police stayed until 1:30 am and left, telling him to file a complaint the next day. When he went to the police station, Arab officers kept informing Abu Sneineh that "the officer in charge is not here." He finally left without making a complaint.

Since their forced eviction, the Abu Sneineh family has lived a "vagabond life," camping out at the home of their in-laws. Seven of the children are in elementary and preparatory schools and have been unable to attend regularly and received warnings from their teachers. Mahmoud himself has been unable to work, first devoting himself to trying to regain his home, and now, to rent new premises.

Fatmeh Abu Mayaleh, who suffered beating, scalding and slashing with a knife, is still in serious condition, according to doctors at Makassed Hospital. She has come out of coma but has not regained full consciousness. It is unlikely she will ever be able to speak about her ordeal.

IN PROTEST AT ISRAELI INTERFERENCE

DRUZE CELEBRATION CANCELLED

Scheduled festivities for the annual Druze celebration of Nabi Shueib were cancelled, April 25 in protest over the Israeli army's tight security checks for Lebanese Druze attempting to join in the celebration.

Druze spiritual leader, Ain Tarif, called off the celebration at the shrine of one of the Druze's prophets and 10,000 people from the Galilee and the Golan went home. Tarif was angered by the intensive security checks to which co-religionists were subject at border posts. He said it was an insult, particularly to spiritual figures.

Israeli media made a big play of the event in the days which preceded it and noted that it was the first time in 35 years that Druze from Lebanon could celebrate the Nabi Shueib festival at his shrine near Tiberias. Problems occurred when hundreds of Lebanese Druze drove up to the Israeli border hoping to be allowed across. They were subject to strict security checks, had to register their cars and take out insurance policies. Sheikh Amin Tarif called a meeting of hundreds of Druze outside Tiberias when he heard of the decision and together they decided to cancel the celebration. Tarif sharply criticised the border procedures which he said were contrary to an agreement reached before the celebration took place.

Nabi Shueib was "depoliticised" in the early '70s following Druze protests. Before that, Israeli government figures would use the celebration to make political speeches and deliver new ideological decisions on Druze-Jewish history and relations.

Al Fajr invites our readers to submit letters, opinions and articles. Contributions must be signed, but names can be withheld upon request.

Palestinian Family Compensated for Shooting Death

The Jerusalem Magistrates Court ruled, April 12, that the Israeli minister of defence must pay IS2,000,000 compensation to the family of a Palestinian woman who was shot dead by an Israeli soldier last year. The court accepted the family's claim that Amir Rosenfeld, a Beit El guard, shot carelessly and "in extreme recklessness." The dead woman, Azizeh Tarhat Issa, 45, from Ain Yabroud, Ramallah district, was shot dead while working her land with three of her sons, April 8, 1982. The family's lawyer calls the decision a precedent.

For shooting Azizeh as she worked in her fields adjacent to Beit El settlement, Amir Rosenfeld was sentenced to four months imprisonment with five months suspended at a court martial, May 26. Arguing that the sentence showed the authorities accepted the shooting was illegal, the family filed a plea for compensation against the soldier, the state of Israel and the minister of defence. Lawyer Darwish Nasser told the court that the soldier was held responsible for his acts and that the state of Israel and the minister of defence bear overall responsibility for the acts of the Israeli military in the occupied territories.

In the plea, the family noted that Azizeh Tarhat worked with her husband in providing the family livelihood and also offered services as a housewife. Therefore, they said, they suffered economic as well as emotional loss at her death.

Commenting to *Al Fajr* afterwards, Nasser said that in the past Israeli courts have decided that the West Bank is occupied territory governed by a military governor and that guarding military camps is part of military duty in a time of war. In such circumstances, the courts have ruled, acts such as those which Rosenfeld was found guilty of committing could not be considered by an Israeli civil court. This, said Nasser, makes the case a precedent. He also complained at the light sentence the soldier received for the illegal killing.

Israeli Authorities Ban PPS Newsletter

المكتب الفلسطيني للخدمات الصحفية
PALESTINE PRESS SERVICES

Israeli authorities banned the publication and distribution of the daily newsletter issued by the Palestinian Press Service in Jerusalem, April 7. The PPS bulletin is the primary source of daily information in the occupied territories for West Jerusalem-based journalists and many diplomats.

After several months exchange of correspondence, Rafael Levy, the Jerusalem district commissioner, sent an ultimatum to the PPS. He stated that the continued distribution of the newsletter, which contains translations from the Arabic press and reports from PPS correspondents, violates the law. "If I hear of its circulation, I will immediately adopt the necessary procedures," threatened Levy.

The Israeli authorities' position is that the PPS bulletin is a newspaper which requires a license and censorship. The PPS says it is a privately circulated translation service sent to foreign correspondents, news agencies and embassies.

Commenting on the closure, Ibrahim Kara'een, PPS coowner said, "We are forced, now, to stop the circulation of the newsletters but we will continue offering our services to journalists and foreign agencies by telephone." He called the new ban another harassment against local Palestinian services.

PPS subscriber, London *Times* correspondent, Christopher Walker, said this is "the end of a very useful round-up of the Israeli and Arab press comments on events in the Middle East which certainly didn't amount to a daily paper, merely a service to journalists and diplomats. They'll probably have to work harder to get the same information," commented Walker.

Sam'an Khoury, director of the Jerusalem Office for Translation and Press Services which was closed by military order for "security reasons" last September said of this latest closure, "It only proves how Israel can suppress freedom of expression, especially when it can single out an institution. It would be much more difficult if it had to face a united Palestinian journalists position. We consider this an extremely grave development."

W B Municipal Representatives Hold Secret Meeting

Representatives of 10 West Bank municipalities held a secret meeting, April 16, at the house of Toubas Mayor Hashem Saleh. According to reliable sources they discussed two issues: contacts with the Israeli 'civil administration' and the Palestinian-Jordanian dialogue. Attending the meeting were members of Bani Zeid, Bethlehem, Beit Sahour, Beitunia, Bir Zeit, Hebron, Salfit, Silwad, Toubas and Tulkarm municipalities.

The meeting was arranged following the return of three West Bank mayors from a visit to Jordan, Hilmi Hannoun, mayor of Tulkarm, told *Al Fajr*. It was called on the basis of a claim that the PLO does not object to West Bank mayors meeting local 'civil administration' officials.

Karim Khalaf, mayor of Ramallah, who was ousted for refusing to meet then 'civil administration' head Menachem Milson, was quoted by *Al Mithaq* bi-weekly, April 23, as respond-ing to the meeting that the PLO is against meeting 'civil administration' officials. "Abd al-Muhsin Abu Meizar, official spokesman of the PLO executive committee, recently affirmed that the official Palestinian stand is to continue boycotting the 'civil administration'," noted Khalaf. "In my opinion if the outside wanted that, they would declare it publicly" Khalaf was quoted as saying.

Hanna Attrash, mayor of Beit Sahour, would not confirm or deny that the meeting took place. He, however, defended the stand which calls for extending contacts with the 'civil administration.' Attrash met the Israeli 'civil administration' head, Shlomo Elia, early last week. Hanna Naser, deputy mayor of Bethlehem, denied taking part in the meeting. The majority of participants agreed to send a letter to the "brothers outside" explaining their position regarding the necessity of contacting the 'civil administration.'

Reliable sources also said that the mayors discussed Palestinian-Jordanian relations. Four of the attending mayors reportedly demanded that they issue a statement in support of the Jordanian position with regard to the talks. Five other mayors reportedly called on the PLO to make concessions in order to reach an agreement with Jordan. No joint stand, however, was taken at the meeting regarding PLO-Jordanian relations. Hannoun denied that they discussed this issue.

A few days before the meeting convened, Israeli media announced that several figures from the West Bank are preparing for a meeting to disavow the PLO's stand on Jordanian-Palestinian relations. (Translation: Al Mithaq, 13.4.83)

Waqf Accused of "Interference in Politics"

Israeli occupation authorities accused the West Bank Islamic *waqf* (the trustee for Muslim property) administration of "interfering in politics and engaging in political activities." The charges were made to Saad al-Din al-Alami, head of the *waqf*, at a meeting he was summoned to with the Israeli commander of the police southern district, in Jerusalem, April 14. Al-Alami, who was accompanied by Walid Assadi, *waqf* representative, was reprimanded and warned for a series of alleged transgressions. The Israeli officer said he had headed a Muslim delegation to visit hospitalised students in Jenin last month. The Israeli police chief also reportedly cited *waqf* "interference" in the issue of Jaffa's Hassan Bek Mosque, the minaret of which collapsed April 3.

Israel's top Jerusalem policeman added the accusation that the *waqf* had affiliates "who have no relations with the Islamic religion" and said the institution "allowed people to guard al-Aqsa Mosque at night." The *waqf* has a list of over 200 attempted entries to al-Aqsa in the past few years.

Al-Alami dismissed police allegations. He explained that he had headed a 35-strong *waqf* delegation to visit poisoned students in Jenin, April 13, and ran into trouble with the police while there. He said that when time for noon prayers came, the delegation went to Jenin mosque despite police orders not to do so. After prayers, they were ordered to leave town immediately. He pointed out that it was a *waqf* duty to care for patients.

Al-Alami told *Al Fajr* that the purpose of the mosque guards was to "preserve and protect" al-Aqsa. He noted that they report any incident to the police for action and that they prevent demonstrators from taking weapons into the mosque compound.

Commenting on the allegations against the *waqf* itself, al-Alami told *Al Fajr* that the police chief was probably referring to the Supreme Islamic Council, The council, he pointed out, was formed in 1967 according to the Islamic principle that "when the land of the Muslims are occupied, they must elect people to supervise their religious affairs and interests." includes religious figures and many of the West Bank's leading Muslim intellectuals. It supervises the *waqf*.

Resistance to Occupation Builds

In the West Bank, a number of Molotov cocktail bombs were hurled at Israeli military vehicles this week. In the Galilee, tearing down Israeli flags and raising Palestinian flags, as well as security arrests, have been taking place at a higher rate than ever before.

In Beit Jala, near Bethlehem, three Molotov's were thrown April 24. In Jalazon camp two similar incidents were also reported. Israeli government broadcasts, which reported the incidents, claimed that no one was injured as a result of these stepped-up protest actions. In Dheisheh April 27, a border guard was hurt when a bus from Kiryat Arba settlement was stoned. The camp was later put under curfew.

In the Galilee villages of Tamra, Sakhnin and Arrabeh, protestors succeded in replacing Israeli flags with Palestinian flags. In the Tamra incident the Israeli flag was found in the vicinity, torn to shreds, April 23. The local council head was called in for interrogation after which he sent cables to Israeli officials condemning the flag destruction incident.

In nearby Arrabeh, for the first time, security forces arrested local women on security charges April 26. The women, Kamleh Said Na'amneh, 28, and Subhieh Said Na'amneh, 40, were arrested two hours after police had been fiercly attacked by Arrabeh residents. Police had brought a detainee, Ismail Said Na'amneh to the village and tried to reconstruct an incident in which a Jewish monument was destroyed. Eyewitnesses said that villagers routed the police with a shower of stones. Police returned two hours later and arrested the women. They were released on IS100,000 bail 48 hours later.

Protest activities against the occupation forces and the state of Israel have become every day occurrences throughout the territories which Israel controls. Israeli papers reported over 300 'disturbances' in the first three months of 1983.

UNION OF CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE LODGES FORMAL COMPLAINT

MERCHANTS PROTEST VAT

The Union of West Bank Chambers of Commerce met in Nablus April 25 to discuss the financial crisis facing merchants because of the recently legalised value added tax, income taxes and the new fees for business license renewals.

Ibrahim Khalil Far, head of the Ramallah chamber of commerce, said that during the past five months his district has witnessed a sharp drop in business revenue. He attributed the losses to restrictions on construction outside municipal boundaries, high tax rates, and this year's unseasonable weather.

The eight-member union also discussed the newly imposed travel tax, which affects the transport of goods across the bridges to Jordan. Cost of a one-time crossing is now IS1500. They decided to submit, in future, detailed objections to several new regulations imposed by Israeli authorities which they believe have had a negative impact on their economic situation. The union intends to make a formal complaint to the Israeli defense ministry. A special follow-up committee was elected consisting of representatives from the Nablus and Jerusalem chambers of commerce to implement the union's decisions.

VAT was recently declared legal in the occupied territories by an Israeli court. (See Feature page 8)

Najah Volunteers Arrested

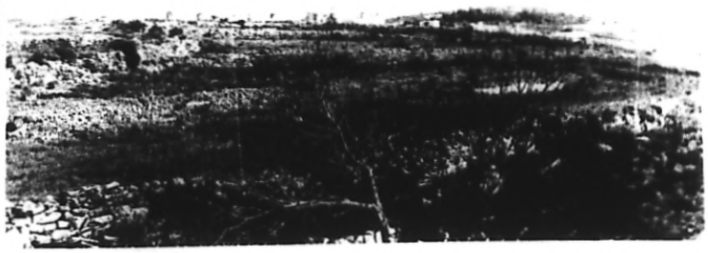
Twenty-eight students from Najah University in Nablus spent four days in jail after their arrest at a voluntary work camp in Khadr village, near Bethlehem, April 23.

The student group of 39 came from Nablus to participate in a day of voluntary work in line with curriculum requirements. They were questioned about possible incitement. Eleven women students from the group were released on the same day.

The Jerusalem Post quoted unnamed Israeli security sources as saying that "several of the detainees are known inciters." Students at al-Najah held a solidarity meeting at the university campus, April 25. Student representatives declared support for their colleagues and called on the authorities to release them immediately.

The students were finally released, April 27. They report there was no evidence against them. (Translation: Al Talia, 28.4.83, The Jerusalem Post 24.4.83)

Land Grabbed in Hebron District



Confiscated land in Surif /SF

Israeli occupation authorities confiscated 10,000 dunums in Surif, Hebron district, April 10.

The grab followed a new common pattern: an officer of the Israeli 'civil administration' in Hebron came to the village, talked to mukhtar of the village and pointed out the confiscated areas. No demarcated map of the area was given to owners. The officer told mukhtars they had 30 days to oppose the confiscation decision. The land was taken under military order 59 which allows the 'custodian of absentee property" to declare any plot 'state' land. Most Surif villagers have land in the area of the grab.

A 10-member committee of Surif landowners appealed to the occupation legal advisor, April 24, for accurate maps of the two zones and more time to gather ownership deeds. One map was delivered to the committee's lawyer, Abed Assali.

The Israeli military appeals committee will decide whether the land, part of which is olive groves, is state property or not.

Shultz Begins Mid East Foray

US Secretary of State George Shultz began his long-expected personal involvement in the Middle East conflict this week. Top of his list is the securing of an agreement for a total withdrawal of all foreign troops from Lebanon. US sources predict he will stay in the region "while there is hope." The American foreign minister began his visit to the area, April 25, with a long discussion with Egyptian President Husni Mubarak. The meeting, which lasted for four hours instead of the planned one hour, was followed by a meeting between the US Secretary and his Middle East ambassadors.

The American foreign policy chief arrived in Israel on April 27. He is expected to ping-pong between Jerusalem and Beirut for the rest of his stay with possible side excursions to Morocco and possibly Syria. US officials will not confirm any itinerary for security reasons.

At a dinner in his honour in Jerusalem, US Secretary of State Shultz urged Israel to "arrive at decisions." Israeli media reported that the status of the separatist Lebanese militiaman Saad Haddad, the future of the transfer of goods and visitors between Israel and Lebanon and the "security of Israel's borders" are main topics of discussion. Shultz told an appreciative Israeli audience, "the risks of failure are far greater than any of the risks of an agreement..."

Local Palestinians were pessimistic about Shultz's visit. *Al Fajr* Arabic daily criticised Arab states for "playing into the US's hands." *Al Quds* daily said that Washington is "moving along in its pre-set plans and is making the area pay a high price in wars and disasters."

CAWL AWAPDED PEACE PRIZE

The Committee Against the War in Lebanon was awarded one-half of this year's Swedish Free Church Peace Prize, bestowed by the SFC Aid. The other half of the annual prize, which carries a cash stipend of 25,000 kronen, is being held in abeyance for the Palestinian people under occupation, to symbolize their lack of freedom of political expression.

The CAWL, formed shortly after Israel's invasion of Lebanon June 4, 1982, now mobilizes 1500 Israelis in activities protesting Israeli policy in Lebanon.

The prize will be given to a CAWL representative in an official ceremony in Sweden in June. Last year's peace prize was awarded to Bishop Romero for his human rights work in El Salvador. Romero was assassinated by government agents in San Salvador, capital of El Salvador, three days after receiving the prize.

Gearing Up for the Shultz Shuttle

by Ghassan Bishara
Washington DC
Correspondent

In an impromptu press conference at the White House, Ronald Reagan announced that Secretary of State Shultz will be going to the Middle East, basically to try and achieve progress in the Lebanese-Israeli negotiations for the withdrawal of all foreign forces from Lebanon.

Reagan opened with a statement about the explosion at the US Beirut embassy, which he said "shocked us all", adding, "because of this cruel crime" Secretary Shultz will be going to the Middle East "with more resolve than ever to .. achieve the total withdrawal of all foreign forces from Lebanon." Shultz's "primary focus will be to bring a successful conclusion to the negotiations in Lebanon." He also expressed hope that that an agreement between Lebanon and Israel can be concluded for the security of Lebanon. He emphasised that "until all foreign forces are withdrawn from Lebanon, that country can't assert itself" and begin to rebuild itself. This emphasis on withdrawal and the argument that the Lebanon government is not to blame for the embassy destruction can be understood to lay some blame on foreign forces in Lebanon, including, and maybe mostly, Israel.

The visit to the Middle East by Shultz, his first as secretary of state, will focus on Lebanon and the withdrawal of forces from Lebanon. Shultz will begin his visit to Cairo for two days, then Jerusalem and Beirut. Senior State Department officials told *Al Fajr* that, though there are no plans now for Shultz to visit other capitals in the Middle East, neither Damascus, Amman or Riyadh can be excluded. This of course, keeping in mind that Shultz will have to be back in Europe for OECD on the 9-10 of May.

Shultz is now being blamed by White House officials as having ignored the peace plan proposed by President Reagan, and also as having mishandled the Middle East and Syria in particular. These reports in the American press are arguing that Shultz's mishandling of Syria caused the Soviet Union to re-enter the Middle East with advanced missiles and even up to 5-6000 Soviet technicians there as well. Shultz also is reportedly ignored by the Congress, which added $350 million to Israel in grants and took some of the proposed aid to Egypt. It is not unlikely, therefore, that Shultz may stop at these other capitals.

In a question and answer session lasting about 10 minutes, Reagan rejected ideas that his plan for peace is not salvageable, since King Hussein's statement of about two weeks ago. Reagan said his plan still had a chance of success and, "that is why George Shultz is going there." In his conversations with Hussein, Reagan said, "that has not been the position he expressed to me." Reagan went on to say, "what really happened was that efforts to persuade Arafat as a representative of the PLO to allow Jordan to represent the PLO in the negotiations that will follow the removal of the forces from Lebanon, he (Arafat) came in with an amendment to what had looked like a willingness to do this, a measure that Hussein couldn't agree to, I couldn't agree to and none of the other moderate Arab states will agree to." He accused radical elements in the PLO for the amendment and the situation as it is now.

In other words, Reagan said that when Chairman Arafat left Jordan following the last session of talks, Hussein and Arafat were in agreement on what was then achieved. Then, according to Reagan, PLO radicals amended that agreed-upon phase, which neither Hussein, Reagan, Fahd nor Hassan will agree with. It is interesting that Reagan doesn't blame the whole PLO on this point but "radical elements" in the PLO.

Asked if the PLO can bring about the stalemate now, how then can he pull his plan out. Reagan, reflecting an apparently genuine American opinion, said, "maybe we are making the PLO more important than they are. Negotiations don't have to hinge on the PLO." Reagan added, in answer to questions about the Libyan arms transports to Nicaragua, through Brazil, and "PLO involvement," as the questioner put it, didn't confirm PLO involvement, but said "there has to be a solution to the Palestinian problem," and, "nobody ever elected the PLO among the Palestinians. I don't think that an element of what this group is doing, should turn us away from trying to find a solution to hundreds of thousands, or millions in fact, of Palestinians who aren't simply radicals and who want something of a homeland."

Al Fajr asked a senior White House official to explain an apparent gap between what Reagan said Shultz will be doing and what he really will be doing. The gap is that Reagan said Shultz is going to the Middle East because his plan is not dead; why then, we asked, is Shultz not certain as of now, whether he will stop in Amman where the major focus of Reagan's plan from the American perspective is? The official said the focus of the trip is on Lebanon, maybe because it is the gate to a move on the broader Palestinian issue.

THIS WEEK'S CENSORSHIP

Following is a breakdown of censorship cuts for issue 156, April 29, 1983:

Number of original articles submitted to censor	21
Number of articles totally censored out	6
Number of articles mutilated beyond use	1
Number of articles delayed	4
Number of articles partially censored but used	1
Number of articles passed	9

The Dawn

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CLOSE BORDERS TO SHULTZ

US Secretary of State George Shultz hit the tarmac in Cairo this week for a Middle East shuttle. Pre-tour publicity is billing the spectacle as an attempt to revitalise the Reagan plan. This can only mean the next war is not far off.

This attitude is cynical, perhaps, but unlike the hope western observers express for the visit, it is based on historical experience. Who can forget that in the years leading up to the last war, Philip Habib's shuttles were inevitably followed by murderous attacks on Palestinian-populated areas in Lebanon? When the war came, was it not Shultz's predecessor who OK'd the jump-off and then fought long and hard to frustrate any action for peace by an outraged international community? Shultz himself was in charge of US foreign policy when the decision was taken to renege on a promise to protect civilian Palestinians in Lebanon — the Sabra/Shatila massacres followed hours later.

The man with blood on his hands is now here to slap another patch on his geriatric boss' ridiculous plan for a Middle East settlement. The plan was always doomed to failure: it did fail and has been dead for several weeks — a child could have predicted that (at least a child without the benefits of a 'civilised European education'). The fact is that no one outside the Washington fantasy factory ever took it seriously — some Arab regimes were happy, as usual, to bend over backwards to humour US powermen, but they knew they could never sell it to their people. Europe shut its eyes and ears and now even is restlessly looking around for alternatives. Israel rejected it outright and now, with increased arms and fully rearmed, is whispering sweet nothings in the US ear — an ear which picks up only praise.

The US today is playing out on the international stage its paranoid fantasies about East-West confrontation and sees this as a major threat in the Middle East too. Israel stymied in its efforts to impose its messianic vision on Lebanon, is also at an impasse. This is a clear recipe for military adventurism.

The Arab states would do well to recognise this fact and tell Shultz to go back to Disneyland.

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NO RETREAT

by Sam'an Khoury

It is very strange to hear Reagan, Shultz, Habib, Hussein, Hassan, Fahd, Mubarak crying about the fate of the Palestinian occupied land and blaming the PLO for such a fate. They claim that the PLO refuses to grasp the unique historic oportunity which the Reagan plan provides. They also claim that as soon as the PLO leaves the room, so to speak, Begin and his government would have no more pretexts and would come running to the negotiating table. In this way their fellow Arabs, the land and the religious sites would be saved.

It is the PLO that is delaying any progress toward peace according to this nice scenario and it is the PLO which is depriving its people of taking the opportunity available only until next fall when the US presidential election starts. This is why the PLO is the one to blame for not giving priority to the case of saving the land and fellow Arabs, as the statement from Jordan April 10 said. All the rulers in Washington, Amman, Riyadh and Cairo are terribly worried about the fate of the Palestinian people, unlike its sole representative which is unconcerned, stopped by such feelings as fanaticism or extremism or doubt and mistrust of the US. It is in this way that they try to deceive the Palestinian and the Arab people and much of the rest of the world.

Playing its own game of dominoes, the White House promises that as soon as the Jordanian king joins the negotiations, the US will do all it can to remove other obstacles which include the continuation of settlement building. Thus settlement building is only one of the remaining obstacles, and not the main one. Palestinians should not be surprised when, later, the US demands more concessions, such as accepting the already built settlements and stopping all resistance which they like to see as mere terrorism and violence, and then more and more demands of the sort the Lebanese negotiator is suffering from.

They want the PLO out of the room. All of them consider it the obstacle: Israel which does not even recognise its occupation of the Palestinian land; The US which considers the establishment of a Palestinian state a slippery rock on which it will lose its ambition to control the entire region; the Jordanian king who since his Rabat dethrowning in 1974 has been attempting to regain representation of the Palestinian people. After the war in Lebanon they all thought the time was ripe to say, "Bye, bye, PLO," to use an old Brzezinski phrase. To them the Reagan plan surfaced as the right opportunity to achieve this aims, because they know that as long as the PLO exists, the Palestinian cause will have a strong core. But if the the PLO should vanish, these grave diggers think they will be able to abolish the national cause of the Palestinian people and make it a problem of a minority.

The failure of the Jordan-PLO talks was a shock to them. Reagan called Hussein, Hassan and Fahd and requested their help to raise the pressure on the PLO to make concessions. The three kings promised, in turn, that they will continue to move along the same path, hoping that their US master won't give up his plans. Then Reagan openly attacks the PLO, fair game by now, or at least the extremist elements in it, and at the same time asks his Arab friends to kindly rescind their Rabat summit decision. In the American dictionary extremism in this case means the adherence of the PLO to its own decisions.

All pressures from all sides have been exerted on the Palestinian people and their representative to force them into retreat. But the PLO as a leadership has so far refused to retreat and, if it wants to continue playing its role as representative, can never shrink from its role.

OPINION

Only a Comprehensive Peace Can Prevent War!

Al Ittihad Editorial

Meir Wilner and Chairman Arafat met in Prague April 18.

The latest Prague meeting between Arafat and (MK Meir) Wilner of Rakah is a step forward, in line with the events, in the chain of sincere efforts made by the forces of peace and justice, Palestinian and Israeli, to convince Israeli public opinion that there is no alternative to continual wars other than achieving a comprehensive and just peace in the area.

This issue has now become decisive, in all meanings of the word, before the Israeli government's feverish attempts to weaken Israeli public opinion and convince it that Syria is "hostile" and that Israel, even if it struck as a "deterrent", is the "victim" of aggression against it! The head of the security and foreign relations committee, Eliyahu Ben Eliezer, was the first to indicate this government intention on March 9 when he said that the atmosphere in the north reminded him of the atmosphere which reigned on the eve of the June 1967 war. Obviously the Israeli circles ruling at that time succeeded in convincing Israeli public opinion (apart from the Communists and their supporters) that Israel was, even in its June aggression, the poor one and "the victim of aggression."

The Begin government finds direct and indirect encouragement in the positions of the opposition Zionist parties which vary, as in the past, between "the reality of the situation and we are all in one boat," and drowning in the illusion of the usefulness of separate solutions and the illusion of the possibility of imposing a submissive peace on the Arabs. Were not the leaders of these parties sure, at the time, that the June war was "the last war"? Didn't Anwar Sadat breathe his last in the belief that the submissive separatist Camp David accords had "put an end to all the wars"? Didn't premier Begin bring the Israeli people and the Zionists the good news that the aggression in Lebanon would "surely" bring about the Cairo-Tel Aviv-Beirut tourist triangle?

Since the beginning, we Communists and our allies have said that there is no alternative to the series of wars other than a just and comprehensive peace. The Israeli rulers and the leaders of the Zionist parties have run away from this fateful equation by plunging their people into various illusions about other alternatives, such as "Raful's" (Eitan) military strike to end the conflict; or the Likud and Alignment alternative concerning the usefulness of a separate settlement with this Arab leader or that Arab king. Their disappointment after every war was enough, if only they understood, to deter them from continuing to impose the strangest of lives on the citizens of the state of Israel -- a life between war and war, between armistice and armistice, between funeral and funeral!

We warn all thinking people in Israel of the dangerous, if not fatal, obstacles which may spring from various current phenomena -- they indicate that government circles are determined, till their last breath, to follow the old path of disaster. We believe that the present world is unlike the world of the past. The Israeli rulers should remember that Israeli public opinion refused, for the first time, to regard the war in Lebanon as one to which there was "no alternative"! How do they expect this public opinion, after Yasir Arafat no longer has any door to knock on in search of a reasonable and just peace, to behave?! We place the opposition Zionist parties before their historical responsibility in these fateful steps. Many of their leaders have admitted that it was possible to avoid the latest Lebanese war. So what about a new war with Syria?

The question is how?

Once again our answer to this question is: beware of illusions of "separate solutions" and the illusion of "military solutions." We know that the primary responsibility for this illusion, even before the shuttles of Henry Kissinger, is American imperialism which is not interested, in fact, in a settlement of the Middle East conflict. We notice that this imperialism, in the days of the shuttles of Philip Habib, has passed. We read in *Haaretz* yesterday that this US envoy "opposes holding negotiations with Syria while negotiations with Lebanon are taking place, because negotiating with Syria might enable the Syrians to destroy Israeli achievements in these negotiations." This American "game" is not new; it is to reach a separate settlement between Israel and Lebanon followed by pressure on Syria, even by war!

Matters, as Begin himself admitted, are most complex. Mr Begin admitted also that the aggression in Lebanon "did not achieve all its goals." In fact, it well and truly failed. It failed to wipe out the Palestinian struggle; it failed to strike at Arab-Soviet friendship. It is unlikely that Mr Reagan and Mr Begin realise, undeclared, that the goals of this aggression cannot be realised except by a new war against Syria.

We do not want this war. The majority of the Israeli public does not want this war. But how? There is no other way than the resolution of the conditions for a just peace confirmed by Arafat and Wilner.

There is no avoiding the fact that those who occupy the land of others and refuse to withdraw from it, those who set about annexing the Syrian Golan Heights to Israel and refuse to withdraw from it, those who set about colonising occupied Palestinian territory and expand this colonisation and refuse to withdraw from it, those who reject the hand of peace stretched out by the Palestinians and the Arabs in general to Israel and its people -- these people are the aggressors and are responsible, before their people and before the world, for bringing about a new war. Syria recently announced officially and repeatedly, that it is prepared to realise a comprehensive and just peace in the framework of the United Nations, not in the framework of the contemptible games of American "mediation." And that is right!

This is our position. To the extent that this is also the position of other opposition circles, it is possible to avoid the likely tragedies. Those who dream that it is possible to hide from the anger of their people and from the responsibility of history in the slogan "the arrow has been fired, war has started and we are all in the same boat," we believe that this time their dreams are fatal.

We, in our clear stand on the Arafat-Wilner declaration, proceed, together with all peace forces in the world, from the depths of responsibility. Nothing remains except for the others to realise this time that they will not be able to escape their responsibility before their people and before the peoples of the world. (Translation: Al Ittihad, 4.22.83)

THE JORDANIAN ROLE IS PIVOTAL FOR REAGAN

When Will Hussein Call on Reagan?

by Ghassan Bishara
Our Washington, DC Correspondent

Since September 1, 1982, the day President Reagan announced his peace plan for the Middle East, Jordan's role in achieving this plan, it became clear, was pivotal. During King Hussein's visit to Washington, December 18-23, of last year, it was stated that King Hussein would return to Washington DC, once he had a chance to talk over with other Arab leaders, including PLO leaders, the results of his long talks with President Reagan and other American officials.

The Jordanian role, from the US government's views, took on much more significance, considering the American government's determination to by-pass the PLO as a party to negotiations and the Reagan plan. Following months of PLO-Jordanian talks, it came down to the very end of the last sessions in Amman when Chairman Arafat carried the proposal to the Fatah central committee, in order to review and approve as is, or add new items. As is known now, the central committee reaction was not a rejection of the proposals carried by Arafat to Kuwait, but an addition of two new items: insistence on the right of the PLO to play a role in the negotiations, and that the road to a confederation with Jordan should be preceded by an independent Palestinian state. The confederation has to be, it is now known, between two independent states.

Such a reaction from the PLO did not fully satisfy the Jordanian government, nor did it meet American demands under the Reagan September 1st plan. The process had been frustrated by the Israeli government's direct and unequivocal rejection of the plan, its foot-dragging in Lebanon, and its acceleration of the settlement activities in the occupied territories, so a scapegoat had to be found for Israel. The PLO's proposal provided the alibi for the US government, which suddenly chose to forget Israel's role in bringing about the stalemate. While on Monday, April 11, the State Department spokesperson, during daily briefings, went out of his way to reassure everybody that the plan was not dead, and that the PLO-Jordan talks were not finished, adding that Mr Arafat was to return to Amman to continue the talks, on Tuesday Secretary Shultz criticised the PLO in a press conference, calling on Arab states to reconsider their 1974 Rabat resolution.

What Is Next:

On December 23, 1982, before King Hussein left Washington, both President Reagan and the Jordanian king talked of the next visit of King Hussein to the US, once he finished his contacts with other Arab and PLO leaders. King Hussein at the White House then said, "We will go back to our area. We will be in close contact over the coming period with our brethren there... and we hope to be in touch again -- I hope to have the privilege and the pleasure of being with you before too long."

The scheduled visit of King Hussein to the US, believed at the time to take place by February and later by early April, is now pushed further into the future. This appears to be a result of the situation in the Middle East and the stalemate resulting from Israel's intentional foot-dragging to damage whatever remained of the Reagan plan. In a phone conversation with the Jordan desk at the State Department and the press office at the State Department, *Al Fajr* was told that there are no plans in the next few weeks for the king's visit to the US. *Al Fajr* was also told that if King Hussein were to arrive in the US within 3 weeks time, the US government would know about it. The State Department press office couldn't confirm or deny that King Hussein may be coming to the US by mid-May, as was announced by the National Association of Arab Americans, to be the keynote speaker at their annual convention.

In talking to an official of the Jordanian embassy about the PLO-Jordan negotiations, *Al Fajr* was also told that contacts between the PLO and Jordan are not finished. The communique issued from Jordan, Sunday April 10, we were told, reflected the situation as it was at the time, but did not project an end to the process. About the prospects of the visit of King Hussein to the States in the near future, which would reflect progress from the Jordanian and American perspective, the Jordanian official told us that there are no plans for the king's visit. About the likelihood of attending the NAAA's annual convention in mid-May, the official said that it is also not likely, adding that the king may delegate someone else to address the convention.

Photo Exhibit at Bir Zeit University

THE ARTIST AND HER SUBJECT

by Awad Abdel Fattah

"It is not necessary that art should be connected only to the reality of occupation, art should also portray other realities and world outlooks." So said Hiam Abbas, an artist from Deir Hanna, Galilee, speaking to *Al Fajr* toward the close of her photo exhibition which opened April 13, at Bir Zeit University.

The one-woman exhibition of scores of photos reflected different realities – general and personal – as well as philosophical views.

Palestinian students and Palestinians in general are not exposed to art in the sense which Westerners have developed the concept. Decorative art directly reflecting what has been going on under occupation is predominant in Palestinian society. Thus Hiam had to explain the meaning of her photographs to many visitors. Unusual images which conveyed the artist's personal feelings and perspectives about life were, no doubt, added difficulties to the visitors.

Hiam, who was recently appointed a lecturer in art in Bir Zeit University, admits that concentrating on, and showing, the artistic side of her work is one of the main purposes of the exhibit. "I wanted to show that the artist can pick up a certain image reflecting a certain reality and put it in an effective artistic framework through photography."

She says she examines certain scenes for several hours a day and waits until the image she needs is fixed and then takes the picture. In some cases she asked people to 'act the images. I want to show," she said, "that observation is not a passive process."

In one of the pictures, a group of Oriental Jews are making calls in public telephones stuck to a dirty wall, in Haifa. Hiam, who completed her studies at Haifa Vetzo Art Institute, explained that from her regular observation of the scene, she rarely saw an Ashkenazi Jew coming to call. "If one came by mistake, he drops the telephone and leaves immediately," she added. "In this picture and others, I wanted to make the visitor aware of the form of discrimination practised by the Israeli authorities, not only against Arabs, but also against Oriental Jews who speak Arabic."

Hiam Abbas in front of her photography exhibition at Bir Zeit University.

Beside this picture, another one stands bearing the same theme. An old Oriental Jew who sells newspapers looks, sitting on the stairs of a building under construction. Just behind him is a label reading "Danger". Hiam noted that the only Jews who sell newspapers are Orientals. "They are not interacting with the job they are doing, and they are completely neglected."

An element of contradiction is also apparent in most of the pictures. For example, in one of the newspaper seller pictures two contradictions appear; the seller is seen with his old plastic basket, a wooden box on which newspapers are placed, and a big tin on which he sits. Just behind is a modern shoe shop, thus showing two different realities, the old and the new in contradiction.

Confiscation of land is also one of Hiam's themes. Area 9, near Deir Hanna, which was declared closed in 1975, is photographed at four different times of the day, showing the land in various hues. "I wanted to show not only the subject matter," she said, "that these threatened lands are in fact used and cultivated, contrary to the Israeli claim but also technical proficiency."

Contradictions between individuals who believe in revolutionary change also won Hiam's attention. About six or eight pictures are devoted to this subject. The idea begins with a photo of a young Palestinian man sitting in his room alone and looking up at Trotsky's picture which is hung above his head. The young man has let his hair grow over his shoulders. His shirt is unbuttoned. After showing him in a number of photos making violent movements "as a symbol of aspiration for immediate change," other pictures follow showing his desperation. The idea which Hiam wanted to convey is the isolation of the revolutionary from society, or from the reality where he lives. "If a person who believes in revolutionary change," she explained, "is unconnected to the society, he or she might reach a stage of desperation from his or her disappointment about the lack of immediate change."

There is also a photograph describing conditions of Arab workers under occupation. The picture does not show the typical scene, a number of Arab workers on the place where they sleep, for example. But Hiam's focus was on the personal belongings of the workers, and where they are kept. A worker's plastic basket, shoes and clothes are shown in a neglected open spot, near the place of work.

Personal Feelings

Personal feelings and concerns as well as philosophical views were also a point of focus in the exhibition. Death, man's growing immunity to suffering and scenes from her birthplace were expressed in a series of pictures. The components of the image were either created or deliberately organised by the artist. However, these kinds of images were the least popular to the visitors.

The exhibition drew controversial opinions. One student from Bir Zeit University said, "The exhibition is only a reflection of the artist's personal cares and feelings." Whether this was a positive or negative dimension he refused to comment. Another student said he felt alienated at the exhibition, but got over this feeling when the artist explained some pictures.

Hiam, the artist, told *Al Fajr* that she received positive responses from most students. "My purpose in this exhibition," Hiam concluded, "is to present a new kind of art and serve art itself in our society."

Israeli Censorship Strangles Arab Drama

by Yehoshua Sobol

When the Cinema and Theatre Censorship Board (CTCB) banned the play *The Patriot*, the Israeli public angrily protested against the decision. The press wrote articles and reported on everything concerning the issue. An acting committee was created, in which all the theatres were represented, and a public meeting even took place in Tel Aviv's Hakamri Theatre to protest the decision.

During this struggle against censorship, one important and dangerous fact was not mentioned at all for years Israeli censorship has sabotaged every attempt by Arab writers trying to show their plays on the stage, especially when they try to show original plays which deal with the reality of Arabs inside Israel, and demonstrate some of the problems of their society. Every attempt of the censor to interfere in the Jewish sector leads to protest and a big fuss. On the other hand, the media ignore all the harassments of the censor against the Arab writers and their theatre community.

One of the most active people in the Arab theatres in Israel, and one who has been badly hurt by censorship, is the actor and writer Rateb Awada, who is known to the Jewish public through his play *Second Lodger*, which had a successful run a few years ago in the Bimartef Theatre.

For the last two years, Rateb has been struggling against censorship which banned his play *Scenes* after it had played for a few weeks in 1980, in Arabic, in Nazareth and some other Arab villages.

In his play, the writer exposes various scenes from the life of the Arab villages in Israel. He deals with social and political issues concerning the Arabs in Israel. The play is built on the system of "theatre-within-a-theatre" and includes eight scenes. Two actors portray a number of different characters and their stories. In one of the scenes, a peasant, coming from his farm, meets an officer from the Israel Land Administration who tells him his land has been confiscated. In another scene, the *fellah* tries to go to court against this decision, but in the court he meets the same man who came to tell him about the confiscation, who has now become the judge. In the scene which made the censor furious, we see an Arab mayor who threatens to call for a general strike after he discovered that all other attempts to solve the problem of confiscation had failed.

From One Supreme Court to Another, and the Play is Cut

The play was shown in October and November of 1980 before an Arab audience. In early December 1980, the writer-actor Rateb, and the actor Ghassan Abas, received an order from the censor to stop the play, and to bring the script to the censor. Rateb claims that, "When Yigal Allon became the minister of education, he decided to stop the activity of the Cinema and Theatre Censorship Board, and for years nobody was asked to present his play to the censor, even though the Law of Censorship was never cancelled." Rateb took his play to the censor immediately. They stopped the play, and gave the script to the board.

In the Hebrew theatre, the censorship board gives its reply within a couple weeks or maximum, one month. But it seems that this practice does not apply to Arabic dramas. Rateb waited six months to receive the decision of the committee, which, in the end, was negative. Rateb decided to use his legal right to appeal to the board itself. He appealed twice, but the decision remained negative.

On March 30, 1981, he appealed to the Supreme Court against the CTCB. The Supreme Court suggested that the two sides should reach an agreement. Rateb was ready to compromise with the censor and agreed to cut the scene which was disqualified by the censor in which the mayor threatens to call for a strike. The censor's argument against this scene is that "the threat to strike is a provocation." The writer's readiness to cut this scene did not help, however, and the play was still forbidden in its entirety.

Rateb is still fighting. On November 30, 1982, he appealed to the Supreme Court for a second time. The CTCB was given 45 days to bring its argument to court, but four months have passed and the board has not yet formulated its argument. Rateb is still waiting.

A Quarreling House

It appears that Rateb was relatively more fortunate than other Arab writers. At least he was more fortunate than writer Tawfiq Fayyed, from the village of Moqabileh. Tawfiq wrote a melodrama called *A Quarreling House*, which played once in the Tzavta Theatre in Tel Aviv, with Rateb as the leading actor. Tawfiq, in addition to writing, worked as a high

continued on page 13

VAT Forces Workshop Closures, Emigration

by Awad Abdel Fattah

An Israeli court decision to "legalise" the imposition of Value Added Tax (VAT) on the occupied territories, April 10, has deepened the gloom of the Palestinian business community. Many merchants looked to the decision to save their livelihood and now face the possibility of joining the dozens or possibly hundreds of merchants or small workshop owners who were not here to learn of the verdict, because VAT had already forced them to emigrate to Arab countries as declared bankrupts.

The Union of Chambers of Commerce of the West Bank decided April 26 to defy the High Court decision. One business community representative told *Al Fajr*, "The situation is now getting more complex after seven years of the imposition of VAT. Our big mistake was that the national leadership in the West Bank did not call everyone to boycott all (Israeli) taxes — for a civilian rebellion."

Bankrupt merchant before his closed shop in Jerusalem/SF

What Has Been Going on Since 1976?

The Israeli High Court flew in the face of all international legislation in making its decision to levy VAT. Drama over, however, economists remind people that VAT, a 15 percent levy on all goods, was first imposed by the Israeli authorities in 1976. Now legally postdated, merchants remember it as a time of anarchy. Taxes were sent without correct assessment "according to the mood of the tax authorities," one merchant from Ramallah said. Despite a two-day strike by merchants that year, the Israelis continued to send incorrectly assessed tax demands to traders and workshop owners. "Whoever refused to pay was fined thousands of Israeli lira ' one shopkeeper recalled.

"As a result of the pressure the Israeli tax authorities exercised on us," said Haj Ibrahim Abu Omar, member of the Jerusalem merchant's association, all merchants were forced to pay the tax.

Four years later, the VAT policy took a more serious turn. The tax rate was raised from 8 percent to 12 percent, and the tax authorities started to demand sophisticated bookkeeping from the merchants and the workshop owners. Their regulations demanded all sales and purchases be registered, a practical impossibility in an area where there are not enough trained accountants. In a letter to the military governor and other Israeli departments concerned, the chairman of Ramallah's chamber of commerce, Ibrahim al-Far, explained in 1982, that "the hiring of accountants is expensive, especially when it is taken into account that bookkeeping is a sophisticated and complex matter."

Al-Far, who was bitterly disappointed by the recent High Court's decision concerning VAT, told *Al Fajr* that accountant's fees and taxes have been consuming most business profits recently. "Consequently," he added, "many merchants in Ramallah have rented out their stores, and there are others who intend to follow suit."

The Old City Hardest Hit

"We have become like hired labourers for the Israeli government," said one food store owner. He pays US $700 for his accountants, and about 40 percent of his profits in different taxes. Presently, these include 15 percent of VAT (it was raised again last year), income tax, property tax and the so-called Peace for Galilee loan, also imposed last year.

Many businessmen were unable to withstand such taxes. According to Abd al-Rauf Abu Asab, the secretary of the industrial committees' association in the Old City, 46 workshops and small factories have gone out of business in a single area of the city. They cut right across the spectrum of businesses. Most were small factories manufacturing clothes and shoes but restaurants and souvenir shops were also included. He himself was forced to close two restaurants, last year, because he could not afford to pay the taxes.

The whole situation was further complicated by the fact that tourism here has tumbled because of the unstable political situation.

Ibrahim Abu Omar, whose shoe factory closed recently, now sits in his tourist dress shop — "where there are no sales at all about 10 days a month."

The Israeli policy of taxation is viewed by the Palestinian business community as a stimulus to emigration. Most business people *Al Fajr* contacted spoke of a dramatic drop in income since 1973. They attribute the phenomenon to a combination of factors, including: the forced closure of a large number of enterprises; the distribution of leaflets by Israeli extremists urging Israelis and foriegn tourists to boycott Palestinian goods; the ongoing establishment of a complete Jewish quarter in the heart of the Old City with commercial stores and the frequent aggression and attacks by Zionist extremists against Palestinians. VAT is seen as one more aspect of this picture. "We are against Value Added Tax. We are under occupation," remarked Abu Omar.

VAT and the Stonecutting Industry

VAT strikes at the heart of Palestinian commerce and industry. Particularly hard hit, because of the specific nature of the trade, will be stonecutters. The 3-month strike of the stonecutting industry in 1980 in protest of the imposition of the VAT was a manifestation of the seriousness with which they view the harm which they expect to follow from the imposition of VAT laws. The initiative for a strike was taken by stonecutting plant operators in the Hebron area and Beit Fajjar village whose entire population depend for their livelihood on the industry. They said then that VAT would destroy it completely.

A committee was formed and a legal fund set up to appeal the legality of the tax in the Israeli High Court. The committee appointed a lawyer in an attempt to acquire an order allowing the plants' owners to resume work without paying VAT.

"But after a long, useless wait, and after our economic conditions worsened as a result of the strike, we decided to go back to work," said Haj Fakhri, a plant owner from Beit Fajjar.

Since then, bookkeeping has been imposed. Whoever is caught without account books is immediately fined IS25,000. Beit Fajjar is consequently in crisis as the taxes bite. The crucial economic contribution of the stonecutting industry to the life of the village means everyone is suffering. In a population of 10,000, there are 56 plants, each owned by two or three families; about 1000 others are employed in them. Most of the development in the village and the budget of the local council is financed through donations collected from plant owners.

The head of the village local council told *Al Fajr* that if the stone plants are closed, "under the effect of the heavy taxes, the arbitrary fines and the constant harassment, we will not be able to set up or maintain any project in the village. The local council will no longer be able to continue."

In the last five years, five plants were forced closed. Their owners left for the Arab countries to seek work. Local residents say the five were taxed out of business. Abdallah Taqatqa, one plant owner, was forced to pay IS300,000 in his last year in business. Kamel al-Jarad had IS120,000 extracted from his ailing business. Now others in Beit Fajjar are questioning their ability to continue.

Haj Fakhri told *Al Fajr*, "The Israelis are trying to strip the plants' owners of any profit they can make in order to push us to despair of (ever) being independent and to make us either hired labourers in Israel or become emigrants."

On the Way to Legalised Discrimination

by Zvi Timor

Racist thinking these days is not any longer the preserve of a minority. Racist declarations and declarations representing a semi-apartheid ideology have become a part of Israeli public life.

It is not only (Kach leader Meir) Kahane, but the deputy chairman of the Knesset, an MK from the Likud, who wondered why Israel did not evacuate 200,000 more Arabs from the West Bank (in 1967). MK Meir Cohen-Avidav believes that evacuating all the Arabs from the country is a legal act, because this country belongs only to one people.

People like Cohen don't believe in co-existence between Arabs and Jews, and their theory is dangerous because these are people from the political establishment and the army. And they plan their policy to actualise their theories. The shift from talking to acting may not take very long.

I Will Be Ashamed To Be a Citizen of The State

The journalist Moshe Lichtman will publish in the next edition of the magazine *Monitin* minutes from meetings of the Committee for Planning Land Policy, which was appointed by (Agriculture) Minister Simcha Ehrlich. From the protocols we learn that some leaders in Israel believe in the ideology of apartheid. The chairman of the committee, attorney Amnon Goldenberg, once said, "the consensus is to find ways to prevent Arabs from integrating into the Jewish sectors." And he adds, "If this happens, I will be ashamed to be a citizen of this state."

Public figures who testified before the committee expressed racist ideas. For example, Joseph Tabnekin testified, "in apartment complexes where Arabs buy apartments, Jews leave, so it is impossible to have a mixed population. Therefore, I suggest that we ask legal experts what to do in order to prevent this phenomenon." The separation between Arabs and Jews inside Israel has always existed *de facto*, but Mr Tabnekin suggests giving legitimation to this segregation within the frame of liberal law. By doing so, he is actually legitimising apartheid laws, and bringing them to Israel.

The director of Israeli Public Lands, Meir Shamir, also believes that a mixed population inside Israel is not an arrangement to be encouraged. Mayor of Upper Nazareth, Menachem Ariav believes so too. Lately he declared that seven to eight percent of the apartments in his town were bought by Arabs at very high prices, and he suggests taking steps to fight this phenomenon.

The prime minister's advisor for Arab affairs, Benjamin Gur-Arye, also believes in this policy, but he wants to limit it to small development towns; he would not oppose 100,000 Arabs coming to live in Tel Aviv. He suggested building houses for Arabs in their towns. His conclusion is that it is impossible not to build houses for the rapidly increasing Arab population, while also preventing them from buying houses in Jewish towns next to their villages.

Meir Shamir told the Goldenberg Committee, "There is a state policy, and government instructions, not to encourage Arabs to live in certain Jewish towns." He was not ready to tell the committee which government offices were involved, or whether this policy is written down. In any case, he is convinced that in this respect he acts according to governmental consensus. At this point, chairman Goldenberg stopped the discussion and said that it is not within the committee's authority to discuss the issue.

Confiscated Land Worth IS 1 Billion

Gur-Arye explains the problem of the Arab lands saying, "the land which was confiscated from Arabs is worth billions of shekels, but the state is ready to pay to the owners, who are citizens of the state, almost nothing. For example, the amount which the government pays to the Islamic *waqf* is only IS8 million a year." Gur-Arye agrees that the state should pay those who agree to

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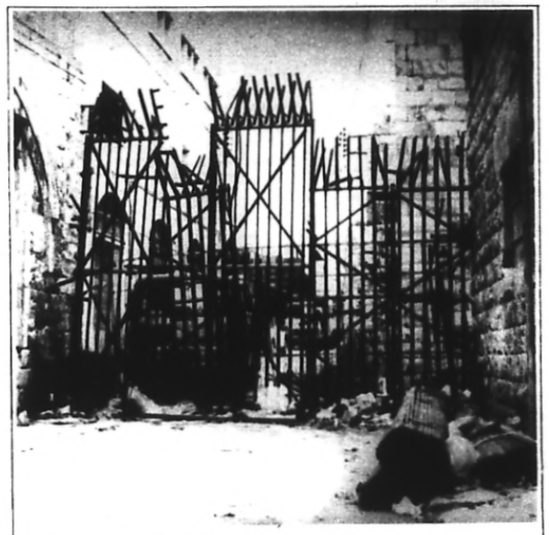
Back to the Beginning Of the Occupation

by Zvi Bar'el

At least eight villages were placed under curfew last week. Some of them were under curfew for a long time; in some others, curfew was imposed in the morning and lifted in the evening. There were two reasons: stone-throwing and the poison scare. The Israeli army has no clear-cut response to either. Tear gas, arrests and fines have not lessened the number of stones removed from their natural places and thrown at Israeli vehicles. Nearly 20 people were wounded by the smashing of their car windscreens or from being hit directly by stones.

To the lists of incidents compiled by the various authorities were added dozens of more incidents, bringing the number almost up to that of last year. It's true that the violence has decreased; the number of those killed until now is far less than the number killed in March-April of last year. The number of those imprisoned is also small. It is preferred to bring them to trial quickly, sometimes without the legal advice, to collect heavy fines from them, sometimes 10s of thousands of shekels (in one case amounting to IS80,000) and then send them home.

There remains a trace of the theory of "harassment" from the school of the (former) chief-of-staff (Raphael Eitan), but it still cannot be said that quiet and stability have come to the West Bank. It is also hard to distinguish between the stone-throwing and the festival (sic) of the poisonings which has not yet ended. There are daily reports of "yellow powder," stomach-aches, trembling and dizziness. Every report brings shock, panic and no answers; and demonstrations, tyres and stones.



Nablus gate, erected by Israeli authorities during curfews to forbid entrance to Old City. /Esbeekay

The "Minority" Looks Angry

To this stormy scene is added the strong and consistent pressure of the settlers in the West Bank. They regard the stone-throwing not only as a direct attack on them physically and on their property, but also on their honour. For them, the West Bank is part of Israel and the Arabs are a weak minority. Based on this theory, it is a national insult when this "minority" of over 800,000 people looks angry and throws stones. These stones, more than being effective weapons, create commotions and commotions scare off the new families looking for "the quality of life" who want to come and settle in the West Bank. If there are no families, for whom should the settlement be built?

Their proposals for security solutions are not new. We have already heard about expulsion, about stopping work for workers from villages where there are disturbances, about acts of revenge, security patrols, etc. To the security forces it is clear that implementing these proposals is adding fuel to the fire and that adding more pressure on the Arab population and more acts of violence, will attract more attention to the West Bank, already covered more by the news media, last week, than any other place.

On the other hand, the statements and demands of the settlers put the security forces under psychological and political pressure and they are forced every time to "throw them a bone." Three methods were used this week to calm things down: schools were closed, large army forces were sent there and a network of curfews was spread over many villages. The closure of schools took attention away from the poisonings. Large army forces were sent into the region because of the many disturbances and because of the fear of more of the many 'remembrance days' during this period — Land Day, the attack on al-Aqsa Mosque and the first anniversary of the deaths of those killed last year and many others.

But the most prominent of all the methods used in the recent period is the curfew. The development of its use is interesting in itself. In the early days of the occupation, curfews were only imposed for operational purposes; in other words, in order to search for 'terrorists' or to combat PLO personnel. Curfew was imposed from between 24 to 48 hours at most and then lifted so as not be interpreted as collective punishment. The policy was to enable the population to live an organised life. Curfew prevents workers from going out to work, students from studying. The army wanted to show that despite the occupation, life was normal in the territories. But in the mid-'70s, curfew was introduced as a means of deterrent. In this period it was imposed from between four days to one week. In one case, in Hebron, after the killing of six settlers, the curfew lasted 20 days.

From the end of the '70s and until recently, curfew has been used as a means of punishment. Towns and villages suffered curfews after stones had been thrown from them. Commercial life was broken off: "If the merchants lose money (so the theory ran), they will not allow the youngsters to throw stones and so there will be internal pressure leading to censure of those who create disturbances. The responsibility will thus fall on the leaders."

In 'explanatory talks' in the central squares where the youths congregated, it was announced through microphones that as long as the "notables" were unable to extricate the stone-throwers, the whole town or village would suffer. They did not take blood-ties or the common interest into consideration. Neither did they foresee that exactly the same elements, the "notables" would be those preventing "treachery" or censure, especially when all faced a common enemy.

But more dangerous than that, resorting to such a harsh means of punishment removed the head of the spear which the military government should use as a warning in order to be fully effective. From the over-use of this punishment, residents have grown used to it.

An Emergency Atmosphere

The deterrent has turned into a source of scorn and contempt. The fact is that one day after curfew is lifted from one town or village or another, stone-throwing and demonstrations start up again in the streets. Again curfew is imposed, again stones are thrown. But using this means has also changed the atmosphere in these towns and villages. The feeling of an organised and planned life has disapperead. Food has begun to be stored in greater quantities than is normal for Arab families. Workers are getting used to phoning home during the day to find out if there is a curfew and if anything is needed in the house. Schoolchildren are told to come home immediately after school; any delay is interpreted as arrest. Storekeepers are concerned to keep canned rather than fresh food. Owners of shops selling fuel refill more quickly and more often than before.

The prevailing atmosphere of emergency has done away with the fear of the army's measures. The people are already used to curfew. There is food. And there is personal readiness. Thus there is no difference if the stone is thrown or not. If it has already been thrown, it is better if it wounds, in order to fulfill expectations. A stone which does not wound does not bring on a curfew and then one must guess what the army will do. Then it is hard to plan life; and a life under curfew must be planned.

An indication of a change in the atmosphere may be found in the words of the settlers themselves. They are not in favour of curfews being imposed or of an influx of soldiers into the area. They are aware that such measures create an atmosphere of emergency, of unnatural quiet and of feelings of hatred towards the occupation. None of these can further their aim of annexing the West Bank, whereas if it is quiet, it is possible to see peaceful co-existence being established, the brotherhood of nations, comradeship and mutual understanding between Arabs and Jews, making it possible to throw these 'facts' in the faces of those opposed to annexation on the pretext that the two people cannot live together in peace. But when foot and vehicle patrols increase and villages are shut, there is no room for presenting things like this, while the situation returns to that of the early days of the occupation.

Likewise, it appears that not only the Arabs have grown "used to" curfew; even the army has recently stopped using curfew as a stick. Punishment is no longer the most important thing. Now curfew is preventive, thus its frequent use in towns and villages. Proof of this new perspective is the lack of attention and concern to what is happening inside this village or town and excessive attention to what is happening on the road passing near that village or town. This is despite the imposition of curfew when it is conceived as a means of punishment.

Passing by villages under curfew, it is possible to see people walking in the alleyways without fear, shepherds taking their flocks out into the fields and even children of stone-throwing age wandering freely around the village. But on the main road, nobody is allowed to move without permission or a special permit.

A top army man said this week: "This is undoubtedly a means of prevention. When there's a curfew, there are no stone-throwers and so we achieve our most important goal. If, together with this, curfew were a means of deterrent, then we would achieve an additional goal."

If curfew is a means of prevention, it is hard to imagine where it will end. It would have been possible to continue the curfew in Jalazon refugee camp another 24 days — and in the remaining villages likewise. In addition to this, why limit curfew to the places where stones are thrown? If one is speaking of prevention, who can guarantee that stones will not be thrown in other places? And if so, curfew can be imposed on countless other places, for prevention means giving the medicine before the sickness starts.

It is also evident that if there are no clear criteria for when to impose curfew, there are clearly also none for lifting it. Everything is subject to the discretion of the military commander of the area, when in fact he is just an advisory factor, even though he knows the area better than anyone else. The ultimate decision-maker is the regional commander and even he cannot always decide without consulting the political echelon which in turn is subject to considerable pressure from the settlers.

One way or another, whoever is responsible for this policy should know that over-use of curfew strengthens the feelings of the early days of the occupation. This return to the past will not rectify past mistakes but only create an escalation requiring ever more stringent measures to be taken. Or is it conceivable to expect a total change in this policy? (Translation: Haaretz, 14.4.83)

Al Fajr continues the list of books banned in the West Bank by the Israeli military authorities as published for the first time in cumulative form by the Israeli Defence Forces, September 20, 1982, under the title *Decrees, Orders and Stipulations: Order Regarding Hostile Propaganda.* The order is dated January 18, 1977 and is issued by Yehoshua Bar David, censor, who writes in the introduction: "Based on the authority granted to me in accordance with Article No. 88 (A) from Defence Regulations (State of Emergency) 1945 and Article 8 regarding the prohibition of works of hostile propaganda (Judea and Samaria) No 101 for the year 1967 and as I believe that the order is necessary for purposes of security and public order, I hereby issue the following order... It is prohibited to import or print or distribute the publications listed below this order. All orders regarding publications which were issued before the date of this order are repealed. The effective date of this order is January 26, 1976."

Numerous books by and about Gamal Abd al-Nasser are banned in the West Bank.

The Organisational, Political and Theoretical Report to the Second ...al Conference by Naif ...eh is also banned by ...li authorities in the West

BOOKS BANNED IN THE WEST BANK

Title	Author	Place of Publication	Publisher
The Writings of Badr Shaker al-Sayyab	Badr al Sayyab	Beirut	Dar al-Awdeh
The Writings of Mahmoud Darwish	Mahmoud Darwish	Beirut	Dar al-Awdeh
The Writings of Mohammad Jamil Shalash	Mohammad Jamil Shalash	Beirut	Dar al-Awdeh
Quarries in Caves	Thurayya Milhem	Beirut	Dar al-Kitab
The History of Estranged Arabs in the World	Hassan Hiddeh	Damascus	Dar Dimashq
The Geography of Lebanon	Abd al-Ra ouf Fadlallah	Beirut	al-Jami'a
The Revolutionary Logic of the Modern National Arab Movement	Abdullah Rimawi	Cairo	Dar al-Awdeh
The Children of Israel in the Quranic Balance	Sabir Taima	Beirt	Dar al-Jeel
In The Shadow of Revolution	Mahmoud Ghnim	Cairo	Dar al-Maaref
The Future of Arab Youth	Mohammad Ali Hafez	Cairo	Dar al-Maaref
Sailing With The Wind	Khalifa al-Waqan	Kuwait	Dar al-Salasil
In the Garden of Thought	Abd al Rizaq al-Biser	Kuwait	Government Press
The Day of Arrivals	Kuwait College	Kuwait	
Modern Kuwaiti Poetry	Awatif al Sabah	Kuwait	College
The Error of Islam	Mohammad Fadlallah	Kuwait	Dar al-Maaref
The Dairy of a City Called Beirut	Nizar Qabbani	Beirut	Qabbani Publications
The Quintet of Life and Death to Palestine	Mohammad al-Qaisi (A Series of Trips)	Beirut	Dar al-Awdeh
I Recall that I Loved	Hassan Abdullah	Beirut	Dar al-Awdeh
Issues of our Age	Nur al-Din Hartoum	Beirut	Dar al-Fikr
A Journey to Asia	Mohammad Abd al-Razaq Mana'	Tripoli	Maktabat al-Fikr
The Dawn of Nasserite Ideology	Gamal Abd al-Nasser	Beirut	Dar al-Bayan
Love and Heroism	Suliman Al-Issa	Aleppo	Al-Mashriq Bookstore
Khaibar Invasion	Mohammad Ahmad Bashmil	Beirut	Dar al-Fikr
80 Years Looking for a Way to Escape	Salah Hassan	Beirut	Dar al-Fikr
Rockets of Truth	Mohammad al Ghazali	Beirut	The Modern Library
Tears of A Woman Prisoner	Mohammad Khamra	Beirut	Dar al-Yaqtha
Lebanese Modern History	Labib Abd al-Satar	Beirut	Dar al-Mashreq
Gleanings from the Inspiration of The Pen	Mustafa Sadeq al-Rafa'i	Beirut	Dar al-Mashreq
Bare Feet on the Sea			
Palestine Over 60 Years 1922-1937 part 1	Emil Khoury	Beirut	Dar al-Nahar
Read - Steps Towards Jerusalem	Dr Abd al-Aziz Kamel	Cairo	Dar al-Maaref
West Bank and Gaza Strip 1967-78 Between Follow-up and Annexation	Hussein Abu al-Namil	Beirut	Research Centre and Samed
The Writings of Omar Abu Risheh part 1	Omar Abu Risheh	Beirut	Dar al-Awdeh
The Palestinian-Jordanian Bibliography 1900-1970	Mahmoud al-Akhras	The Committee of Jordanian Libraries, 1972	
Summary of Palestinian Modern History	Dr Abd al-Wahab al Kayali	The Arab Society for Studies and Publications	
The Way to the Other Tent	Dr Radwa Ashour	Beirut	Dar al-Adab
Critical Studies of the Ideas of The Palestinian Struggle	Dr Sadeq Jalal al Athem	Beirut	Dar al-Awdeh
Zionism Beginning and End	Abu Mazen	PLO Falastin al-Thawra Publications	
A Dialogue in the Shadow of Guns	Mahjoub Omar	Beirut	Dar al-Talia
History, Nation and Classes and the Gathering of Zionism			
Left Studies on the Palestinian Cause	Sadeq Jalal al Athem	Beirut	Dar al-Talia
The Geography of the Arab Nation	Fathi Mahmoud Abu Ayana	Beirut	Kreteh Office
The Writings of Tawfiq Zayyad	Tawfiq Zayyad	Beirut	Dar al-Awdeh
Studies in Modern and Contemporary Arab History	Omar Abd al Aziz Omar	Beirut	Dar al-Nahda al-Arabia
The Revolution Won In Vietnam	Leila al-Jabali	Cairo	Cairo for Arabic Education
The Great Arab State	Mahmoud Kamel	Cairo	Dar al-Maaref
The Ottoman-European Relations	Hasaan Ali Halaq	Cairo	Kreteh Office
God's Promise Is Not to The Children of Israel	Mohammad Abd al-Latif	Egypt	The Egyptian Council
Struggle and Victory	Abd al-Halim Mahmoud	Egypt	The Egyptian Council
Tears for Gamal Abd al-Nasser	Nizar Qabbani	Beirut	Dar al-Katib
Our Country Palestine	Mustafa Murad Dabbagh	Beirut	Dar al-Talia
Occupied Palestine, 1948-1967	Anis Sayigh	Beirut	Research Centre
Balfour: Historical Conspiracy	Arafat Hijazi	Beirut	
The Holy City in Islam	Abd al Halim Mahmoud	Egypt	al-Azhar
Home Behind the Borders	Issa al Na ori	Beirut	Dar Aweidat
Between Rome and Jerusalem	Charles Danskom	Cairo	Dar al-Nashr
Modern and Contemporary Arab History of Israel from Their Books	Nur al Din Hatem	Kuwait	Minister of Education
The Challenge to Arab Thought	Mohammad Izzat Darwaza	Sidon	Modern Bookstore
Diverting the Jordan River	Hassan Saib	Beirut	Dar al-Elm Lilmalayin
Planning Arab Propaganda	Ahmad Abd al Karim	Cairo	Dar al-Qawmiyeh
Marketing Profits	Aqeel Hashim	Beirut	Research Centre
Three Years: June 1967 to June 1970	Ali Rifa i	Cairo	Sbeh Bookstore
Three Under the Sun	Ahmad Baha' al Din	Beirut	Dar al-Talia
The Price of Sin	Leila al-Yafi	Cairo	Dar al-Fikr
Geography of the Arab World	Najib al-Beani	Beirut	Dar al-Katib
Geography of the Arab National Homeland	Mohammad Taha Abu al-'Al	Cairo	
Gamal Abd al-Nasser	Abd al-Fattah Mohammad Wahibi	Beirut	
Gamal Abd al-Nasser: The Revolution and The Man	Jack Domal	Beirut	Dar al-Adab
The Treasure of Preaching	Ahmad al-Bakri Bayparus	Beirut	al-Haya Bookstore
The Christian Quarter	Nabil Khoury	Cairo	Sbeih Bookstore
Love Without Meeting	Abd al-Aziz Araiqat	Beirut	Dar al-Nahar
My Love for Him Is More	Khazin Aboud	Beirut	Dar al-Katib al-Arabi
		Beirut	Commercial Bookstore

The Night and the Town

by Gharib Askalani

The Decision

The court sentenced the accused, Mu'in Awad Saber Mansi, to life. .... a loud shout and slogans came from the dock. *Zaghruda* (ululations- a traditional expression of joy) suddenly came from the chest of his mother ("I beg you, mother on the day of the sentence, shout *zaghruda*"). The mother's pain is greater than the *zaghruda*, that died in her larynx and changed into a hoarse sound, then into silent weeping. His father fell from his chair, his jaw loose. He crouched at the foot of the bench, his tongue tied in his mouth.

The bench of the military court, consisting of three judges, left. The lawyer folded his robe and went out quickly. Meanwhile, the policemen rushed to cope with the matter as usual.

The Chess Board

His wife sat beside him. The rustle of her new evening dress aroused many desires in him. Her perfume filled his head, so his foot pushed the gas peddle and the car rushed into the streets of the town that spring night. On the chess board, at the house of the entertainer, the glass of wine dulled the mind of the lawyer. He moved the knight one move and then made another cheating move. He came close to victory. The entertainer pulled his eyes away from the new evening dress and his wife stuck out her tongue, enjoying the admiring glances at her very nice dress and then she chatted with the other women.

The entertainer gazed at the game s drama ... he moved one of the knights, and whispered knowingly: "Checkmate."

In spite of his cheating, the siege killed him. The lawyer lost the game, and folded the board smiling, "It will be better for me in another game."

"Bad luck's been with you since the morning."

"Never. But the case of a young man in the refugee camp. A grenade case. Results are predictable. People always support the perpetrator and have hope. But the law is the law." He stretched himself, put his arm through her arm and left. That night he felt unsatisfied, despite her perfume. She pushed him with her soft foot and buried her head in the pillow. The affect of the perfume got to his head. He lit a cigarette, exhaled: "We lost the case, the game, and the damned woman won the dress."

The people assembled around the tent. They sat on the ground. One of the neighbours brought the lamp and lit the area. Another prepared coffee on the fire. A third neighbour distributed coffee to visitors. Many men came from the quarters of the camp. Abu Mu'in knows them all, yet does not know them. The women crept to the tent. Um Mu'in knows them and does not know them. The place is crowded with people who come individually and in groups. Some groups leave to make room for others. A man welcomes the visitors.

."Prison for men, Abu Mu'in."

"Man, raise your head. What happened?"

"It is impossible for things to remain as they are."

Some people who came from distant quarters shook his hand firmly.

"Hang on. You and his brothers will inherit the fortune."

He is the only son with four sisters. Fair young women like the moon, if it should disappear. One brought a plate of food and begged them to eat.

"You didn't put a morsel in your mouth today. By the life of Mu'in, eat some food."

The hands extended, and the mouths ate a little with difficulty. The appetite has been killed. The howls of the dog tied near the tent are loud. The ghosts of night. Suspicious shadows. The young women are under the protection of the guards of the camp.

The Draught

Seasons of draughts and Abu Mu'in, despite his crooked back, goes every day with the workers and comes back in the evening. One day he loses his job. He is a shadow of a man. He makes little effort and only has a little money. After he paid the lawyer's fees he insisted on getting all his money the day before the sentence. Agony in the heart. Four young women like moons - Salma, Leila, Hind and the youngest, Lubna.

The days betrayed me, son, and I fear a bad end. One day a humourous dark man, like Mu'in, took him to town. His chest was wide and his speech fluent. In the town they banged on the door of the Respected Man. The young man said to him,"Respectable Man, this is the broken Abu Mu'in."

"Who is Abu Mu'in?"

"The owner of the tent. The steadfast tent on the rubble of his demolished house."

"What do you want, dear fellow?"

"Some steadfast supplies for the people of steadfastness."

The man smiled, showing his fangs,"We did not take him into account. The steadfastness funds are already calculated."

The Respected Man realised he was talking to a fluent-speaking man but wore rags. The Respected Man raised his voice.

"Is it anarchy? Who told you about me, kid?"

The youth whispered:"Institutions. Family. They taught us that the family is the most important institution in our society."

He looked at Abu Mu'in and left. They disappeared into the street.

The Respected Man said to himself,"Oh God. His name is bigger than his body..."

The young man told himself that at night the crows are numerous. "It will be easy, son."

Eyes, Eyes

The wife of the merchant sat on the bench. Um Mu'in sat on the ground in the waiting room. A man left the clinic. The sound of the doctor came:

"Next."

Um Mu'in entered. The young woman looked at her watch and rushed into the room. In the room, the eyes of the doctor laughed and he continued his work.

"What are you suffering from, old woman?"

"My eyes are streaming."

The doctor examined her eyes, they were bloodshot and the tears flowed.

"What happened to you? Is it an old case?"

The young woman laughed and said teasingly, "Your husband hit you, old woman. He is a hard man."

"Abu Mu'in! No, no, my daughter. The real man does not hit an old woman like me."

"OK, I'll give you drops for your eyes. Come back in a week." He gave her the prescription.

When he examined the eyes of the young woman. her pupils laughed and the blue of her eyes mixed with the painting. He damned Max Factor cosmetics. He caressed the pupils.

"What are you suffering from exactly?"

"When I put on *kohl*, I feel burning in my eyes and they fill with tears. I cannot open them."

The doctor thought it was an allergy.

"If you have cosmetics it is better to be sure." The woman painted her eyes and the doctor gazed at them again through his magnifying glass.

"Some allergy. You have to change to another kind. Do you have video films at home?"

"Yes."

"You should not watch these films. Sleep early." Through the door of his clinic his voice became friendly:

"God guard you. Next."

The Lame Masoud

The municipality of the town twinned with Riyad municipality. The garbage workers and the street sweepers stopped working, because as the rumours said, their wages are high. Nobody remained in the department of cleaning except a few handicapped who used to beg at the doors of the rich. Because they are few, jobs remained empty. The municipality, therefore, by-passed some of its conditions and agreed to employ some non-handicapped people. Therefore, Abu Mu'in became an employee in the cleaning department of the town. He pushed the garbage carriage with his assistant Masoud, the lame, through the quarters of the town. The kids used to follow them and Abu Mu'in got used to these scenes and repeated to himself, secretly, "The most miserable joined the most disappointed."

Abu Mu'in liked Masoud and the days went on. The feast was close and Masoud was very happy licking his lips.

"*Bakhsheesh*, Abu Mu'in. We will see."

A day before the feast, the wife of the lawyer stood in her night dress and stroked Masoud until he sang for her and she gave him IL10. The wife of the merchant tempted him to clean her kitchen. And he got some sweets and empty bottles. The owner of the embroidery factory gave them some food and money. When they arrived at the home of the Respected Man, whose name is bigger than his body, Masoud became very happy. Abu Mu'in's body shook and he shouted at Masoud, "I swear I'll break your leg if you bang on his door."

Masoud shrunk and continued walking beside the carriage in silence. In the street Abu Mu'in whispered to Masoud, "Good year to you, Masoud."

Salma worked in the embroidery factory; the owner of the factory gazed at her eyes and licked his lips. The serpent of lust aroused his senses. He wiped his brow and said,

"This body dies in a tent."

He watched her fingers fixing the cloth on the machine.

One day, a tear dropped down the cheek of the young woman. The reasons for her weeping possibly mixed in the mind of the owner of the factory. The serpent of lust again stretched in his body. He approached her to pick the fruit. But before his tongue could make saliva he noticed the picture of a young man drawn on a cloth. He told himself, "This absent-minded woman is in love. It is true that 'underneath the most abstracted are serpents?" He frowned, and taking advantage of her embarrassment, said,

"Who is he? Where is your work?"

"This is Mu'in." The tear flowed. He noticed something in the fist of the young man and retreated, "Look how handsome he is?"

She folded the embroidered kerchief and put it into her breast.

At the school the art teacher told the students to draw the market. Lubna did not draw and spoiled her painting. At the end of the class, the woman teacher stood by her amazed. Lubna smiled, the same smile of her brother beind the bars. How can Lubna store his smile? The teacher gazed at the picture of a man in Lubna's hand. His smile is simlar to Lubna's simle. Stunned, the teacher took the picture and left before she cried.

In the town, there was an exhibition. People came. The dark man hung a picture of a tent. The woman teacher hung Lubna's picture. Salma hung her embroidered kerchief. The smile of Mu'in permeated the atmoshphere of the exhibition. His dark brow shone. The people crowded in. The lawyer, the doctor, the merchant and the Most Respected Man whose name is bigger than his body came. They smiled before the audience. When the smile of Mu'in shone on the faces of the people, they shivered and a damp noise spread. "Steadfastness for the people of steadfastness." (Al Fajr al-Adabi, No. 19, April 1982)

WINDOW ON THE ARAB PRESS

US Secretary of State George Shultz's visit to the area and the after shocks of the bombing of the US embassy in Beirut were the major stories in the local Palestinian papers this week.

Al Shaab Palestinian daily noted that Israel refuses to give any compromises to the American secretary while the Arab states have postponed their summit meeting until after Shultz ends his mission

Al Fajr followed PLO Chairman Yasir Arafat s moves and reported on the meetings of the central committee of Fatah.

All three dailies reported April 27 on the uncovering of the Israeli plan to dismantle Palestinian refugee camps and to house them in permanent housing.

Delegating Won't Help

It is not true that "delegating authority" is the most direct way to get back the occupied territories; it is only the most direct way to remove the PLO from the political arena, without being an acceptable "card" to convince the Israeli government to leave the land it has occupied since 1967.

Such "delegation of authority" will put the West Bank and Gaza Strip in the same category as the Golan, not in their capacity as the only homeland of the people, but as land divided by two neighbouring countries.

It is well known that the Golan was not returned to Syria, which has ways of pressure which Jordan does not have, not because Israel or the US did not recognise it, but simply because Israel, with Washington's support, considers the Golan necessary for its security!

Thus the attempt to blame the PLO for the continuation of the Israeli occupation because of its refusal to delegate authority to King Hussein, is nothing other than a evil attempt to cover up the roles of the US and Israel and the treachery of the reactionary Arabs.

Even Reagan, in his plan, does not say that the reason that the occupied territories are not returned to their owners is because of the PLO, and that it would be returned to Jordan simply by relieving the PLO of its responsibility. He only promised to freeze settlements at the limit they have reached and recognised the necessity of expanding Israel's borders so that its population centres are not exposed to external danger.

Those who make statements or tour the West Bank to form delegations of authority, are deceiving themselves and others if they think that settlement will halt and that the land will be restored to its owners merely by removing the PLO

The tripartite Camp David removed it completely and negotiations took place for a long time on this basis; then stopped with the US and Israel not giving the Egyptian administration anything other than self-government as Begin wished!

Now, with the delegation of authority, the removal of the PLO, an independent state, it is intended that the Israeli interpretation that the Palestinians are not a people and that the Palestinian issue is only a problem of the "residents of Judea and Samaria" will be believed.

Walking along this path is not solidarity with the Palestinian people but solidarity with those who conspire against their rights which they will not give up – the rights of self-determination and the establishment of an independent state.

AL TALIA
April 21

What Does Reagan Mean?

What does Reagan's attack on the PLO and its leaders claiming that nobody elected them mean...? Did the Vietnamese people elect Ho Chi Minh before liberation? Or did the American people elect George Shultz? On whom is the pressure directed and what do America's direct and hidden threats mean? Why is George Shultz coming to the region? Is he coming to bask under the clear skies of the Middle East or to twist the arm of some regimes which basically do not need such pressure as they orbit in the American sphere...

Although the hostility of the US administration is not new; and although hundreds of thousands of our people have died, the Palestinian leadership has no complexes in dealing with the US administration.

Khalid al-Hassan responded directly to Reagan's slanders and declared that the Palestinian leadership is ready to accept the American plan if it guarantees the right of our people to self-determination.

We repeat again that our people have undergone many sacrifices and massacres and will undergo more and more... until we achieve our right to live in dignity and honour on our land. Rights supported by demands will not be lost.

AL SHAAB
April 24

What is in Shultz's Bag?

US Secretary of State George Shultz arrived in Cairo today as part of the trip he has undertaken to the Middle East to achieve an agreement between Israel and Lebanon on withdrawal and to draw Jordan to join the American endeavour to achieve a separate settlement with Israel. The settlement would be on the pattern of the separate peace treaty signed between Egypt and Israel in the framework of the Camp David accords.

After the American administration directed its attention, since Sadat's initiative and the signing of the Camp David accords, to contain the Middle East region and turn it into a strategic stronghold for US imperialism, it worked intensely to eliminate the PLO as the sole national liberation movement in the area.

Undoubtedly Shultz's visit aims to achieve American gains in this direction and in harmony with it.

It also aims to strike at the PLO by tying Jordan to the wheel of negotiations taking place under American hegemony and working to create a progressively widening gap between Jordan and the PLO. According to American estimations this will lead to putting Jordan in the forefront of opposition to the PLO in order to achieve American hopes of eliminating the PLO as a national liberation movement which threatens American interests and which, if it succeeds in establishing its state, will work to shaking all the reactionary regimes loyal to Washington in the region.

It is our belief that this American plan is doomed to failure, even if it succeeds in realising any progress or gain now, because it is in basic contradiction with the logic of historical development which has proved that it is the people who are victorious in the end, however great the powers of oppression and repression grow.

We would prefer Washington to realise this fact and spare itself and us pain and suffering which we don't need.

AL FAJR
April 25

Shultz and Us

When the notorious Alexander Haig resigned and George Shultz took his place as US Secretary of State, many American Arabs and their tools in the region heralded this as something good. Haig's absence, irrespective of his successor, gave others peace of mind.

Today President Reagan announces his initiative and the American Arabs swear that Washington is finally on the straight path... and have begun vying with each other and panting to offer concessions to the US, and to promote a new style of policy.

The deception will not last long, however; the parties of beating the drums and blowing the trumpet and burning the incense vanished on the day America did not keep its promises. The massacres of Sabra and Shatila took place and the US, particularly Shultz, bared its teeth in an attempt to bite Palestinian flesh.

President Reagan and minister Shultz are frankly and impudently goading the Arabs into withdrawing their recognition of the PLO, while the US administration eenvoy, Shultz comes to distribute lying promises and commitments to draw whichever Arab they can into the furnace of Israeli-American settlements.

The replacement of Haig by Shultz was not, so it seems, aimed at a change in American policy, but was an attempt to improve its ugly face. The US is not to blame for this but those who welcome American envoys are. If the regimes were not weak, they would close the doors of the Arab capitals in Shultz's face and would allow neither his country nor himself to live so well off of Arab wealth.

For Shultz's information, we Palestinians know what we want and we adhere to our leadership and to our rights, just as we have adhered to life. His instigation against our cause and our rights will be destroyed, just as others before it have been destroyed.

AL MITHAQ
April 27

Muslim Leaders Demand Control Over Property

Palestinian Muslim leaders from the Galilee, Triangle, and Naqab, in a press conference in Tel Aviv April 19, demanded full control over Muslim religious places and property. The demand came in the wake of successive attacks on Muslim holy sites culminating in the destruction of the noted Hassan Bek Mosque April 3.

Since 1948 all Islamic shrines, mosques, cemeteries and assets have been administered by the Israeli religious affairs ministry; *waqf* land is over six percent of Israel's total.

The press conference was called by the General Islamic Council (GIC). Mohammad Zeidan, head of the council, read a speech on behalf of the GIC in which he outlined complaints of negligence against the authorities and intentional state infringement on the Muslim holy sites. "We are able to administer our own affairs," Zeidan said before the crowd of more than 30 foreign and Israeli press correspondents who attended the conference.

Nuri al-Ugbi, a Beduin rights activist from the Naqab, read the opening speech in which he briefly outlined the Israeli authorities mismanagement of Muslim property, graveyards, and mosques. He specifically mentioned the Israeli conversion of Bir Sheba Mosque into a museum, and the blast which wrecked the minaret of Hassan Bek Mosque in Jaffa. He pointed to the destruction of five Muslim shrines in Lyd in October 1977, carried out by the Israeli Lod Development Company and the desecration of cemeteries in various parts of the country.

Zeidan, who chaired over the conference, presented five demands calling on the Israeli authorities to return all Muslim holy sites, graveyards, and property, and transfer them to a Muslim council. He also demanded that Muslims be allowed to elect a regional council to administer the affairs of religious properties. "Freeing all Muslim *waqf* properties, and enabling Muslims to manage them on a local level by elected village and city committees, which are to be supervised by a democratically elected regional committee," was one of the major demands read.

Mohammad Watad, a member in the Israeli Knesset, who attended the conference, said that the Israeli authorities' refusal to free Islamic *waqf* property is "due to the huge profits it garners for the ministry of religious affairs." He also revealed that one-sixteenth of all land areas inside the 'green line' is Muslim *waqf* property.

Mohammad Hbaishi, head of the Islamic court, told those in attendance that Muslims are demanding to be treated as those of other religions. Four days earlier, Tawfiq Toubi, member of the Israeli Knesset from the Democratic Front for Peace and Equality, presented a draft law to the Knesset, asking the government to release *waqf* property from Israeli hands and to turn it over to an elected Muslim council.

Islamic *waqf* committee members are now appointed by the Israeli religious affairs ministry. Regional Islamic *waqf* committees, like those in other Arab countries, are not permitted. (Translation: Al Ittihad, 22. 4. 83)

Haifa Meeting Reviews Conditions of Muslims

A popular meeting was held in Haifa, April 24, to review the present state of Muslims and Muslim property.

The meeting, which was called by the Islamic Initiative Committee in Haifa, was attended by Arab representatives of all non-Jewish religious denominations and other organisations.

Fathi Fourani, general secretary of the Islamic Initiative Committee, said that the policy of the Israeli government is part of the official policy of liquidating the "Arab identity" and "removing Palestinians from their homeland." He said this attack is aimed at the Palestinians' "body, land, folklore, history, culture, mosques, churches and graves."

Fourani demanded that Islamic *waqf* (charitable foundation) property be 'liberated' from government control. He declared this demand to be a right of the Palestinian Arab people.

As an example of the way *waqf* money is spent, MK Tawfiq Toubi revealed that the Israeli government Arabic daily *Al Anba'* receives IS28 million in subsidies, almost all of which is *waqf* money. At the end of the meeting a collection raised IS28,500 towards the purchase of a building to be used as a center for Muslims in Haifa.

Other speakers at the rally included: Yousef Zoubi head of the Islamic Charitable Society in Nazareth, Nazareth Mayor MK Tawfiq Zayyad, Ali Ashour, a Haifa journalist, Mohammad Zeidan, Secretary of the Islamic Committee and head of Kufr Manda Village Council and Mustafa Seif, a Jaffa resident. (Translated: Al-Ittihad, 26.4.83)

French Delegation Visits Hebron

A three-member delegation from the French consulate visited Hebron, April 25, stopping off at the municipality, the polytechnic and several parts of the city. Acting-mayor Mustafa Natshe told the French consul and his cultural and political attaches of the economic and tax problems of the city. At the polytechnic the French consul promised to provide the institute with assistance, including training for students. He said specialists would be sent to the institute to offer courses. During the meeting, the Hebron Polytechnic was twinned to YIT polytechnic institutes in Cannes and Paris. Adib Qaisi, head of the polytechnic, Ribhi Abu Sneineh, the director of the institute and engineer Khadr Qawasmi visited YIT two months ago.

Two days later Mustafa Natshe held a farewell party for the Greek consul. The American, British, Belgian and French consuls were also invited. Natshe told *Al Fajr* he held the party because "Greece is a friend of the Palestinian people."

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL CALLS FOR OFFICIAL INVESTIGATION

Lebanese Treatment Of Palestinians Questioned

According to the March edition of *Amnesty International Newsletter*, the international human rights organisation called on Amin Gemayel, president of Lebanon, to investigate "allegations of ill-treatment" of some of the more than 1000 people held by the Lebanese security authorities. According to the newsletter, the mainly Palestinian prisoners are denied visits by lawyers, family members and other outside observers.

The Amnesty letter to Gemayel also raised the case of a number of prisoners held by the Phalangist militias.

Amnesty urged Gemayel to investigate the events referred to in their reports, to make public the names of all those held in custody and to ensure that all detainees are allowed their legal rights. The London-based group also called on the president to allow the International Committtee of the Red Cross access to prisoners.

THE PALESTINIAN COUNSELING CENTER

Directed by Dr. Mubarak E. Awad presents

A Workshop for Professionals

Place: Y.M.C.A. East Jerusalem

Time: 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays

Date: May 3 — June 2, 1983

Participants:

— —persons who have a B.A. or higher degree in the field of education, social work, sociology, or psychology.

— — persons currently involved in a form of counseling or teaching.

— — persons who would like to work in the counseling field.

Cost:— Free unless college credit desired.

Registration: Forms available at:

Y.M.C.A East Jerusalem
Friends Girls School, Ramallah
Bethlehem Bible College
Bethlehem University
Bir Zeit University
Najah University

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Censored Drama

school teacher in his village. The police arrested him, and accused him of being active in forbidden political activities. Ironically, while Tawfiq was in prison, Israeli television in Arabic showed parts of his play. After a series of arrests and investigations, he was expelled to Lebanon in 1971, where he lived with his family until the last war. In the war, his wife was killed and he, like his people, started wandering again. He lives these days in the diaspora, in Tunis, where he teaches at the university. One of his plays is being shown in a theatre there.

Rateb says, "All I want is that they let me write and show my plays here in my country, and in front of my people, in their language. It is for them that I write. I have something to say, and all I ask is freedom of speech." By the way, in the past, two of his plays were shown in the Hebrew theatre. *Evening Story* played in the Masichot Theatre and *One More Attempt* played in Koma Shlishit Theatre.

Recently, Rateb wrote a play called *Question Mark*, targeted at Arab high school audiences. The play deals with an Arab girl who fights against the limitations of traditional, conservative society, and for her right to freedom and equality. The Department of Arab Affairs in the Ministry of Education did not permit the play to be shown in Arab high schools. Their argument was that the play did not serve the purposes of the Ministry of Education in the Arab sector.

Rateb appealed to the Arab department of the Action Committee of the Histadrut, asking them to help him in his struggle against the prohibition of his play which calls for freeing the Arab woman from the chains of tradition. He claims that they promised a lot, but in fact have done nothing. Rateb concludes, "After 10 years of continuous activities and struggle, I am disappointed. I feel that Arabs who write stand before closed doors. The censor's aim is to stop every relevant play. Censorship works without any rules or limits. On the other hand, the Hebrew theatre can put on every Arab play without limitations. As a human being, I feel that the noose around my neck is becoming tighter."

If the struggle to cancel censorship in the Hebrew theatre is a just cause, it is more than that for the Arab theatre — it is a matter of its very life. Once again, the assumption that the struggle for freedom of speech and democracy should start with the fight for the rights of minorities has proven itself. I think that it is time for our public theatre to take up this neglected issue, and to fight for the rights of the the Arab writer, for freedom of speech and freedom of creativity. By doing this, they will serve the Hebrew theatre as well, and democracy in Israel.

And by the way — they should also take up our case. (Translation: Al Hamishmar, 6.4.83)

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Discrimination

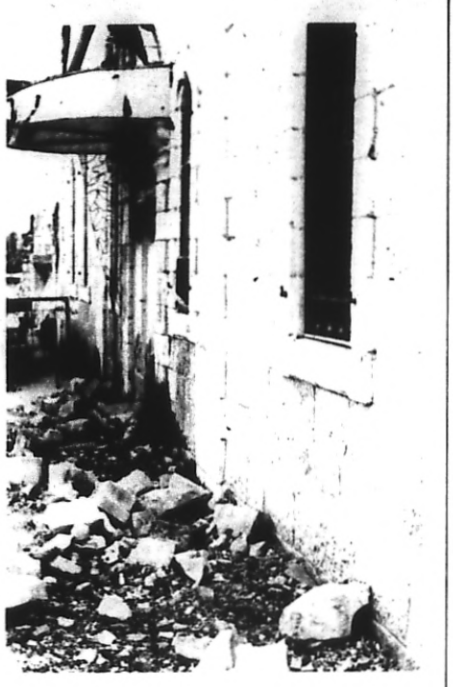
take compensation a reasonable price, according to an assessor's evaluation.

Goldenberg believes that the compensation should be according to the principle of "real price," adding that "to pay according to the historic price is a joke."

The fact now is that 35 years after the establishment of the state, the problem of Arab lands, which have been taken without compensation, is not solved. Such a situation means in fact that the lands were stolen by the state.

The issue of a double-standard of morality and the creating of two categories of the citizen population, will lead to confirming, legally and ideologically, the *status quo*. And if we take one more step, we will become like South Africa — the only state today where racism is legally recognised under the law. (Translation: Al Hamishmar, 20.3.83)

WEEKLY REVIEW



The Aref al-Aref building near the new bus station, East Jerusalem, is shedding masonry onto the pavement. The latest stage of collape started during the heavy rains this winter. Barriers were put up but repeatedly knocked down. Several weeks later some structural work was started by the municipality. Fortunately no one has yet been hit by falling stone at this busy crossing point between the two cities/JN

April 20, 1983

MORE LAND FOR ISRAELIS

AL-KHADR The authorities informed the mukhtar and owners of land in the Ras Salah region of their decision to confiscate around 1000 dunums near the settlement of Daniel. They also informed them of the intention to open a road in the Haboun area near Eliezer settlement.

MILITARY SCREEN

NABLUS -- Mahmoud Hassan Hazaghmeh presented a petition to the High Court requesting an injunction against West Bank military autorities to prevent the confiscation of land in the village of Luba al-Sharqiya in the Nablus region.

The petition stated that the military authorities confiscated the land planted with wheat and barley on the pretext of establishing a military post on it, but that the confiscation was carried out for settlement and not military purposes.

CURFEWS LIFTED

NABLUS — Movement was permitted from the Old City and the commercial quarters and Ain Beit al-Ma' and Askar camps after three days of curfew. The Balata curfew was lifted after eight consecutive days.

STONE SENTENCE

JENIN — The military authorities passed a sentence of 45 days imprisonment and IS30,000 fine on student Salim Zayd Kilani from Ya'abad, for throwing stones at Israeli vehicles and demonstrating last September.

SMALL PROTESTS

JERUSALEM — The Israeli authorities arrested a number of Arab youths from Shu'fat, a Jerusalem suburb, for setting fire to tyres.

In Nablus a border guard arrested a resident for questioning about the stoning of an Israeli border guard patrol in the Qasabeh quarter in Nablus. No one was hurt in the incident, according to Israel Radio.

RABBIT FEET

DHAHRIYEH — Unidentified persons broke into the rabbit farm owned by Ali Khadriyat in Dhahriyeh, April 17. The thieves broke the farm windows and stole a large number of rabbits worth around JD1000. Dhahriyeh has been under on and off curfew most of this year for protest activities against settlers from nearby settlements.

4 MOLOTOVS

Israel Army Radio said that four Molotov cocktails were thrown last night at an Israeli military vehicle near Beit Jala. The radio added that the bombs damaged the vehicle but that nobody was injured. The Israeli army searched the area.

April 21, 1983

40 PERCENT GONE

TEL AVIV — The former deputy mayor of West Jerusalem, Meron Benvenisti, said around 40 percent of West Bank land has been or is about to be confiscated.

JUDAIZING HEBRON

Israel's deputy prime minister and housing minister, David Levy, said that the government aims to build what he called a "Jewish quarter" in Hebron, among other settlement projects.

GET BACK BOYS

MK Amnon Rubinstein of the Shinui party sent a telegramme to Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin demanding that Israeli troops withdraw from the area north of the security belt which Israel is demanding in Lebanon as an interim arrangement and in order to separate forces.

April 22, 1983

JALAZON YOUTH ACTIVE

JALAZON The Youth Committee for Voluntary Work in Jalazon, together with a number of other youth committees, worked to clear and pave three side roads. After the work they went to the tomb of martyr Majal Ahmed Mas'oud on the fourtieth anniversary of his death.

VILLAGE KG

TULKARM — The residents of Ramin village near Anabta are asking the social affairs department in Tulkarm to open a kindergarten in the village. The residents have promised to provide a suitable site for it.

TRESPASSING TREES

HEBRON — The military court rejected the request of landowners in Beit Awamir village north of Hebron, to uproot the forest trees which the Israeli company "Hamnuta" has planted on their land.

April 23, 1983

PUNISHED FOR POISONING

TEL AVIV — Israeli TV said that the head of the 'civil administration', Shlomo Elia, will today issue an order to reopen primary, preparatory and secondary schools in the Hebron area May 2.

The TV added that the order to close these schools was issued by Elia following the poisoning incidents of some students in the Hebron area.

NEW ARTIST

BIR ZEIT — An exhibition of the works of Palestinian artist Mohammad Hamouda opened at Bir Zeit University and will continue until May 3.

MUSLIMS WORRIED

THE TRIANGLE — Israel Radio said that a number of Islamic personalities held a meeting in Habash village in the northern Triangle about the situation of Muslims in the country and the position of the Islamic *waqf* (property trusteeship) inside Israel, currently controlled by Israel's religious affairs ministry.

VOLUNTEERS ARRESTED

TEL AVIV — Israel Radio said that Israeli forces arrested 30 students from Najah University, Nablus, enroute to Bethlehem by bus to participate in the activities of the Voluntary Works Committees. Twenty of these students were later released.

INCITEMENT CHARGE

GAZA — The Gaza military court reviewed the case against the head of the administrative council of the Jabal Zeitoun (Olive Mountain) charitable society in Gaza, Nafidh Medhat al-Wahidi, charged with incitement. Israeli army forces raided Jabal Zeitoun, searched the premises and confiscated some books and magazines.

CO-OP WORK

JERUSALEM — The Youth Committee for Social Work in Silwan and the Youth Committee of the Restaurant and Hotel Workers Union in Jerusalem undertook cooperative work in the Ras al-Amoud Mosque, including removing shrubbery and rocks from the main square of the mosque and restoring the mosque garden. The Youth Committee of the Hotel Workers Union also undertook cooperative work at al-Awda magazine.

April 24, 1983

REVERSING BURDEN OF PROOF

Haaretz reported that the Israeli authorities announced that 10,000 dunums belonging to Surif village in the Hebron district is state land. Officials in the 'civil administration' who sent the notifications have given the residents of Surif 30 days to produce land deeds and necessary proof of their ownership of this land. The landowners have declared their intention of taking the matter to court.

KILLED BY MNF

BEIRUT, AFP — A spokesman for the French contingent in the multinational force in Beirut announced that a French soldier who was guarding a road checkpost, opened fire at a car which tried to crash through it and killed the driver.

DURA MOLOTOV

HEBRON A Molotov cocktail was thrown at a police station at the entrance of Dura village. Security forces surrounded the area and carried out a wide-scale search.

SQUEEZING BALATA CAMP

NABLUS — The mukhtar and residents of Balata refugee camp are asking the Israeli defence minister and officials to reconsider the decision of the Israeli government to construct a road around the camp 70 metres wide. They say that the laying of the road will lead to the demolition of hundreds of houses and the dispersion of their owners.

GOODBYE

The number of Israelis who left abroad during the first quarter of this year is 128,000, an increase of 17 percent over the same period last year. The number of tourists visiting Israel is steadily dropping and in the first quarter of this year was 214,600, 10 percent less than last year.

NO BUSINESS AS USUAL

BEIRUT — The Lebanese government issued an order to all Lebanese merchants to cut their trade relations with Israel at least until May 7, otherwise legal measures will be taken against them. The Lebanese authorities are continuing to confiscate imported goods from Israel. In the last few days they have seized agricultural produce, especially tomatoes and potatoes.

... 5500 TO GO

TEL AVIV — The Israeli military authorities released 13 Druze personalities from the Shouf Mountains southeast of Beirut held in Ansar prison for months. The military authorities claimed that they had helped PLO fighters. 5500 other prisoners are still held at Ansar.

BOMB IN BEIRUT

BEIRUT — Phalange Radio said that an explosive went off in the Mazra'a area in Beirut, injuring one person and causing material damage.

IMPOSING BULLDOZERS

LEBANON Radio Beirut said that Israeli forces have been seen moving stones and boulders by means of bulldozers and heavy equipment in Damour in order to build a jetty in the region. Observers note that the Israeli plan is to consolidate its presence

in Lebanon for as long as possible in order to enable Israel to impose its terms for drawing Lebanon into a peace agreement with it.

THEY TOLD THEM

TEL AVIV – Israel Radio said that the US has been issued a warning, by means of the secret service in Beirut, of armed attacks.

The sources, which Israel Radio did not identify, added that the Israeli authorities informed the US last September to prepare itself for attacks on American representatives and diplomats in the Lebanese capital which the Israeli army occupied and then vacated.

TEMPERATURE RISING?

BEIRUT — Lebanese Radio station said that Syria is strengthening its forces stationed in the Zahle and Jabal Libnan areas and that Israel has begun working to establish a second military airport in the Jiha area.

Newspaper reports speak of tension and of Israeli and Syrian deployments in the area.

ARMENIANS REMEMBER

JERUSALEM – The Armenian community in Arab Jerusalem held an anniversary commemoration for the Turkish massacre of Armenians 62 years ago.

The procession began from the Armenian convent in Jaffa Gate to the Armenian cemetery inside the Old City where wreaths were placed on the memorial to the victims. They also distributed pamphlets explaining details of the massacre and demanded the release of one of their priests arrested by the Turkish authorities years ago.

MORE HYSTERIA

TEL AVIV – Israel Radio said that two Israeli police were taken to hospital afer inhaling ammonia vapour.

The incident occurred when a container of the gas being towed by the two police to the coast began to leak in an industrial area of Herzlia.

BALATA TRAJECTORY

TEL AVIV — Israel Radio said that stones were thrown at an Israeli military patrol in Balata refugee camp leading to the wounding of one soldier.

PALESTINE RESEARCH CENTRE

BEIRUT — The director of the Palestine Research Centre in Beirut said that Lebanese soldiers raided the centre and searched it on the pretext of looking for weapons. He said that soldiers burst into the centre with their weapons and beat up employees with rifle butts and made them stand against the wall as they threw documents onto the ground.

MORE DUNUMS

TEL AVIV — Israel Radio said that the Israeli authorities have informed the mukhtar of Beitillu in the Ramallah district that the authorities intend to confiscate 400 dunums of land near the village, which is owned by 17 village families.

April 25, 1983

ISRAELI ANSAR REPORT

Yediot Ahranot reported April 25 that the Israeli military authorities returned 100 prisoners to Ansar detention camp who were rearrested while carrying out or planning armed operations against Israeli forces.

The paper added that among those who were reimprisoned were "RPG kids" who were arrested during the invasion of Tyre early in the war in Lebanon and released after one month in view of their age.

The paper added that all released prisoners were warned about cooperating with so-called hostile elements outside the camp.

The paper claimed that there were a few hundred PLO personnel whom Israel wanted to release, but who rejected release. A number of them are from Arab and Islamic countries whose governments have refused them permission to return, including 400 Bangladeshis and 80 Iraqis.

It added that the Israeli authorities are holding six Druze figures in Ansar detention camp.

COLLEAGUE RELEASED

RAMALLAH – The authorities released *Al Fajr* correspondent Kamel Jabil after detaining him for 15 days on a charge of possessing banned books.

POLITICAL CLOSING

JERUSALEM A number of security and police personnel raided the headquarters of Silwan Sports Club while Dr. Kamal Abd al-Fattah was delivering a lecture in the club hall. The police said that the subject of the lecture was political.

POLITICAL FIRING

JERUSALEM — The management of an Israeli factory dismissed Ahmed Ali Abu Ayyash, 30, because he said in a programme broadcast on Israeli TV that he supported the establishment of a Palestinian state.

UNIONIST SHOT AT

JENIN — Unidentified persons opened fire at Bassam Mohammad Said Mansour from Qabatia, member of the Union of Stone Quarries and General Institutions in Jenin. He was not hurt.

STUDENTS SEEK HELP

HEBRON—The student unions of Hebron University and of the Polytechnic Institute sent a telegramme to the Higher Students Union Council requesting its intervention to work for the reopening of the two schools which were closed two months ago following protest in the West Bank.

BUS STONED

A Molotov cocktail was thrown at an Egged bus near Jalazon refugee camp, north of Ramallah. One of the bus windows was smashed. The Israeli forces began investigating the incident and called a curfew on Jalazon for several hours.

VAT DEMANDED

HEBRON Tax officials raided the clothes shop of Mohammad Kayyad Immam in the Hamidiyeh market in Hebron and closed the store without notifying the owner of the amount of Value-Added Tax they say he owes.

AIR EXERCISES

LEBANON Israel Radio said that the Lebanese air force has recently renewed its activities over Beirut and carried out several take-offs from runways at the Beirut international airport in coordination with the Israeli army. Lebanese pilots have been training for about one month on British-made planes in South Lebanon.

NOT-SO-QUIET BETHLEHEM

TEL AVIV An Israeli police source said that a Molotov cocktail was thrown at an Israeli bus going to Shilo settlement near Bethlehem. Two Molotovs were found on the Beit Sahour road near Bethlehem where an Israeli vehicle was attacked last week.

April 26, 1983

LOANS FOR SETTLERS

TEL AVIV — The Israeli housing ministry has drawn up a new plan to encourage the ownership of apartments in areas with a surplus of unsold apartments, such as Beer Sheba, Jerusalem, Jaffa, Netanya and the Haifa area by giving loans to young married couples, immigrants or those in dire need of housing in these areas. The housing ministry looks on the Shilo settlement near Jerusalem as one of these areas. There are around 700 unsold apartments in Shilo. Eligible applicants can buy an apartment there with a IS1,400,000 to IS2,000,000 housing ministry loan on easy terms, in addition to a complementary loan from the Bank of Israel according to the financial situation of the family.

FLAG RAISED

A Palestinian flag was raised on top of a tall tree in Sakhnin village, the Galilee. It was brought down by police.

NO EXIT FOR TAWIL

AL-BIREH The Israeli authorities prevented al-Bireh Mayor Ibrahim Tawil from travelling to Jordan. Tawil applied for permission for a private visit two months ago.

350 DUNUM GRAB

BEIT UMMAR The military authorities informed villagers of their intention to confiscate 350 dunums. The settlement of Migdal Oz lies near the village. Sources from the Committee for the Defence of Village Land said that this decision contravenes the decision of the High Court which three months ago permitted the Israeli government to expropriate a part of Beit Ummar lands for military purposes while guaranteeing the rights of landowners there.

HADDAD SECURITY

BEIRUT, AFP — Forces of separationist leader Saad Haddad took over the task of keeping security near the military government HQ in Sidon. They stopped cars and fired intermittently for no apparent reason.

Haddad's forces also set up roadblocks between Bsiri-Hounim-'Anqoun and al-Qariya and reinforced them with armoured vehicles and tanks and subjected residents to body searches.

STUDENTS ARRESTED. .

HEBRON The military authorities arrested student Mustafa Nimr and Ahmed Sayyam, members of Hebron University Students Council.

. . . AND SENTENCED

GAZA – The military court sentenced a number of students from Abasan Secondary School on a charge of demonstrating and throwing fire bombs at military vehicles. It sentenced Jamal Salim Tarasheh to five months imprisonment, Iman Shahadeh to six months and a fine of IS10,000 and Khalil Qadih, Nasser Abd al-Hadi Abu Dika and Maher Musa Abu Darej to three months imprisonment.

SABRI JIRYIS ARRESTED

BEIRUT – Lebanese security sources said that the Lebanese authorities arrested Sabri Jiryis, director of the Palestine Research Centre, in Beirut, after he verbally attacked the Lebanese army and other Lebanese authorities during a press conference he held in the capital.

The Lebanese authorities raided the centre claiming that there were weapons there and then announced that they confiscated bombs and guns. The centre's spokesperson has denied this claim.

PALESTINIANS EXPELLED

The PLO has confirmed that Lebanon is expelling Palestinians released from Israeli detention camps. The organisation is threatening to raise the matter in international gatherings.

The Palestine News Agency WAFA said that until now, 60 Palestinians who were released from Ansar had their identity papers confiscated by the Lebanese authorities and the Phalangists, who then expelled them to the north of the country or into areas under Syrian army control. The agency warned that the infringement on Palestinian rights and the confiscation of their ID papers is an alarming indication of new campaigns to eliminate the Palestinian presence in Lebanon.

It's summertime in Jerusalem: the local Rukab ice cream man bears goodies for children of all ages/JN

US HEALTH TEAM SAYS 'Anxiety' Caused Poison Symptoms

The symptoms of poisoning exhibited by hundreds of residents in the occupied territories during March and April was ascribed to "anxiety" by the official report of the Atlanta Centre for Disease Control published, April 25, in Jerusalem and Washington. The US report received a mixed reaction from the West Bank medical community.

The highly technical report, issued by the US government-administered CDC, details the intensive research carried out by Drs Philip Landrigan and Bess Miller in their attempts to pin down reasons for the outbreak. From their arrival on April 2 they examined 20 patients from north and south of the West Bank, collected blood samples themselves and acquired others from West Bank researchers, conducted a questionaire survey in two of the 12 schools affected, used the results of Israeli environmental tests and discussed the outbreak with Palestinian and Israeli physicians and other health care workers. Specimins were analysed in CDC laboratories in the US and duplicates sent to a World Health Organisation centre in the United Kingdom for cross checking.

The CDC pair found that most of the 900 patients registered as having received treatment in West Bank hospitals during the outbreaks suffered headaches; dizziness; stomach pains and generalised weakness. Nausea, blurred vision, irritation of the eyes, vomiting, fainting and loss of consciousness were also present but less common. They noted reports by Palestinian doctors that severely ill patients had rapid heartbeat, elevated blood pressure, watering eyes, dilated pupils, twitching of the limbs and blueness due to impaired circulation in hands and feet. Many patients suffered recurrence of the symptoms. They noted that these physical symptoms were probably due to anxiety.

Landrigan and Miller dismissed the possibility that the outbreak was caused by toxins, as most Palestinians believed, or 'faking' as Israeli civil and occupation authorities insisted. The American doctors termed it "a true psychologic illness" caused by anxiety.

They note that the Israeli environmental testing showed no evidence of significant levels of toxins, although some evidence of low level Hydrogen Sulphide (H_2S) was present in Arrabeh, the Jenin district, where the first outbreak was reported, March 21. They point out that all samples for analysis were collected several days or weeks after the onset of the illness. They also admit that a "possible shortcoming" of their physical examinations is that they were performed between two days and two weeks after the onset of the illness.

The two doctors state they found "no evidence that patients had deliberately or consciously fabricated their symptoms," contradicting allegations by Israeli military officials in the West Bank.

In their conclusions they state that the original outbreak at Arrabeh school "appears to have been triggered by psychological factors or possibly the smell of escaping H_2S from an outdoor latrine." The outbreak spread, they summarise, because of "psychogenic (mental) factors." They suggest that radio and press reports detailing symptoms may have facilitated the spread. It stopped, they opine, because schools were closed.

Hussein Obeid, director of the West Bank public health department, said the US report was "moderate considering the team was invited by Israel and came 12 days after the initial outbreak." He noted that their conclusion regarding H_2S "confirms my memorandum to all West Bank doctors." Obeid expressed relief at the US statement that patients were not fabricating symptoms.

Earlier, Shlomo Elia, West Bank 'civil administrator', was said by the Israeli media to be considering dismissing Obeid because he advised doctors to look out for symptoms of H_2S inhalation when treating victims. Elia ordered mass arrests and forced patients' transfer or discharge from hospitals during the outbreak.

Dr Fadel Hijazi, deputy director of Alia Hospital, Hebron, which treated most of those affected in the April 3 Yatta and Beit Ummar outbreaks, was much more critical of the US team. "All 900 cases had organic diseases," he stated, "It is impossible for the American to produce a report contrary to the Israeli report."

Dr Amin Majaj, director of the Makassed Hospital, Jerusalem and an internationally reknowned medical researcher, also insisted there was an organic basis for at least some of the cases. "They couldn't figure out what it was," he told *Al Fajr*, "At first there was something. I checked patients and I know something was wrong." He said he would have to have much more data about the scientific procedures undertaken before coming to any final conclusions.

جامعة النجاح الوطنية
ص.ب ٧ - نابلس

الحرية لعدنان ادريس

أوقفوا املاحقات "عدنان ادريس"

الاعتقالات مستمرة

عدنان ادريس
ا. س في جامعة النجاح

كانون أول ١٩٨٠ - مدة ١٨ يوما
آذار ١٩٨١ - مدة ١٨ يوما
أيار ١٩٨١ - مدة ١٨ يوما
كانون أول ١٩٨١ - مدة ١٨ يوما
شباط ١٩٨٢ - مدة ١٨ يوما
ايار ١٩٨٢ - مدة ١٨ يوما
١ آب ١٩٨٢ - مدة ١٩ يوما
٢٢ آب - ٢٢ تشرين اول ١٩٨٢ مدة ٦١ يوما
كانون ثاني ١٩٨٣ - مدة ١٩ يوما
آذار ١٩٨٣ - مدة ١٨ يوما
١٢ نيسان ١٩٨٣ - ... حتى الآن

مضرب عن الطعام منذ اعتقاله

ادفعوا ايديكم عن حريتنا الاكاديمية
لا للاعتقالات التعسفية
دعوه ينعلم

Al Najah Prof. Released

Israeli authorities released Adnan Idris, a teacher at al-Najah University April 25. He had been detained for 13 days in Nablus jail accused of incitement. Idris, a member of the employees' union at the university, was on hunger strike for the last 10 days of his detention. Palestinian prisoners at Nablus jail also held a one day strike in his support.

Idris has served 219 days in jail in 11 separate detentions since December 1980. He has never been tried. Students of al-Najah had started a campaign to get him released.

PROGRESSIVES DEMAND IMPROVEMENTS IN PRISONER CONDITIONS

The Association for the Defence of Prisoners in Israel issued a statement, April 16, containing a number of demands for the improvement of conditions for Palestinian political prisoners in Israeli jails. The statement contained resolutions made at a public meeting which was organised by the association and attended by a number of progressive committees, unions, and independent people.

The association called for the release of political prisoners who are ill and woman prisoners who are mothers, such as Zakiyeh Shammout, and all political prisoners in Ansar prison and West Bank prisons, who have been detained without trial. They demanded that all so-called emergency regulations (in force for more than 35 years) be cancelled. They also demanded that Israel recognise the Palestinian people's right to self-determination, led by its sole-legitimate representative, the PLO.